



# The Namibia Labour Force

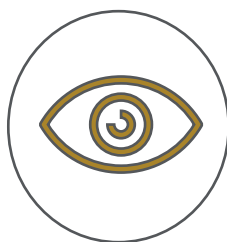
Survey 2018 Report



## Mission Statement

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In a coordinated manner we produce and disseminate relevant, quality and timely statistics that are fit-for-purpose in accordance with international standards and best practice



## Vision Statement

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Be a high performance institution in statistics delivery



## Core Values

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Performance  
Integrity  
Service focus  
Transparency  
Accuracy  
Partnership

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## Forward

The first full-scale Labour Force Survey (LFS) in Namibia was carried out in 1997 under the National Household Survey Programme, launched after the Government endorsed the Five Year Plan for the Development of Statistics in 1993. Since then, Eight Labour Force Surveys (1997, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2016) have been conducted in the country at more or less regular intervals of every four years up to 2012 then from there annually.

The Labour Force Survey of 2018 was the fifth annual Labour Force Survey to be conducted by the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA). The first, second and third Labour Force Surveys were conducted in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively. There was no Labour Force Survey conducted in 2015 due to the implementation of the 2015/2016 Namibia Household and Income Survey (NHIES). In 2017 the survey was not conducted due to limited funds.

Like previous Labour Force Surveys, the 2018 survey was conducted with the objective of generating key socio-economic indicators for assessment of labour market conditions in Namibia. The survey covers all aspects of people's work, including employment, unemployment, underemployment, occupation, industry, education and training needed to equip them for work, wages and salaries.

This document presents results of key indicators of the survey. It is hoped that the findings from this survey will be of assistance to planners, policy makers, researchers, analyst and the public in general to inform their decision making. Furthermore, the survey results provide a quick glance of standard employment and unemployment indicators for assessing Namibia's efforts in meeting its various developmental goals in

particular, those relating to job creations.

This report covers a wide-range of topics to meet the demands of users of labour statistics at national, SADC, AU, and ILO levels. For example, a page with a summary of SADC Minimum Indicators is included, for a quick glance of standard employment and unemployment indicators for evaluating Namibia's efforts in achieving its national and regional developmental initiatives relating job creations.

Moreover, the anonymised micro-level and Meta data for this report will be available via the NSA website at <http://www.nsa.org.na> to enable the public and individuals who are interested in doing further analysis to have access to these type of data. In this way, the country will derive full benefits from the resources that were allocated to conduct this survey.

I therefore would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for all the support that was received from various stakeholders who contributed to the successful implementation of this survey. Particularly, our gratitude goes to the users and producers who provided inputs to survey data collection instruments. Furthermore, our appreciation goes to the household members



***It is hoped that the release will be of assistance to planners, policy makers, researchers and the public in general engaged in the drafting of the NDP5.***





who participated in the survey and provided the required information. We would also like to thank all Regional, Local, Political and Traditional leaders and the general public for their support and cooperation to ensure that the importance of the survey was explained to their respective communities.

Also, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) for their technical inputs to the Labour force survey 2018 in Namibia. Finally, I would like to thank the Government of the Republic of Namibia for its continued funding of this survey. Basic findings and indicators from this survey provide fresh understanding of the prevailing labour market situation

in the country. These findings should provide a basis for better planning, policy formulation and labour-related discussions by all concerned stakeholders.

I hope that the users will find this report informative and use it to support evidence-based planning for the development of the country at all levels.



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**Statistician-General**



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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

|        |                                                                 |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| CTA    | Chief Technical Assistance                                      |
| DSS    | Demographic and Social Statistics                               |
| DVS    | Demographic and Vital Statistics                                |
| EA     | Enumeration area                                                |
| EMT    | Executive Management Team                                       |
| EPR    | Employment to Population Ratio                                  |
| ER     | Employment ratio                                                |
| GIS    | Geographical Information System                                 |
| GPS    | Geographical Positioning System                                 |
| ILO    | International Labour Organisation                               |
| ITFT   | Information Technology Field Technicians                        |
| LFPR   | Labour force participation rate                                 |
| LFS    | Labour Force Survey                                             |
| MLIREC | Ministry of Labour Industrial Relations and Employment Creation |
| NASCO  | Namibia Standard Occupation Classification                      |
| NDP    | National Development Programme                                  |
| NLFS   | Namibia Labour Force Survey                                     |
| NSA    | Namibia Statistics Agency                                       |
| NSS    | National Statistics System                                      |
| PSU    | Primary Sampling Unit                                           |
| RS     | Regional Supervisors                                            |
| SG     | Statistician-General                                            |
| SIC    | Standard Industry Classification                                |
| SSD    | Social Statistics Division                                      |
| SSC    | Social Security Commission                                      |
| SFO    | Surveys and Field Operations                                    |
| TIFF   | Tagged image file format                                        |
| TS     | Team Supervisor                                                 |
| TWG    | Technical Working Group                                         |
| UNDP   | United Nations Development Programme                            |
| UNFPA  | United Nations Population Fund                                  |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund                                  |
| UR     | Unemployment rate                                               |

## Cautionary Note

NSA has used weight calibration to extrapolate the survey estimates to their Namibian population and this has introduced decimals, which has a rounding effect when different variables are calculated, hence some totals may be out with about one unit. Hence, users should be aware that there might be an insignificant difference in totals because of rounding off effects when calculating the totals manually.

## SADC MINIMAL INDICATOR LIST

Table 1: SADC minimal indicator list

| Population                                         | 2014             | 2016             | 2018             | Changes<br>bet. 2016<br>& 2014 |               |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>2,237,894</b> | <b>2,324,388</b> | <b>2,413,643</b> | <b>86,494</b>                  | <b>89,255</b> |
| Male                                               | 1,087,178        | 1,129,754        | 1,173,540        | 42,576                         | 43,786        |
| Female                                             | 1,150,716        | 1,194,634        | 1,240,103        | 43,918                         | 45,469        |
| Age Composition                                    |                  |                  |                  |                                |               |
| Under 15 years                                     | 815,294          | 846,195          | 881,676          | 30,901                         | 35,481        |
| Population Working Age 15 + years Total (PWA)      | 1,422,600        | 1,478,193        | 1,531,967        | 55,593                         | 53,774        |
| Male 15 + years (PWAM)                             | 676,759          | 703,139          | 728,717          | 26,380                         | 25,578        |
| Female 15+ years (PWAf)                            | 745,841          | 775,054          | 803,250          | 29,213                         | 28,196        |
| Youth 15 -34 Years                                 | 826,981          | 854,567          | 876,908          | 27,586                         | 22,341        |
| Active Population or Labour Force LF = E + UE      |                  |                  |                  |                                |               |
| Labour Force (LF)                                  | 983,843          | 1,026,268        | 1,090,153        | 42,425                         | 63,885        |
| Employed (E)                                       | 708,895          | 676,885          | 725,742          | -32,010                        | 48,857        |
| Unemployed (UE)                                    | 274,948          | 349,383          | 364,411          | 74,435                         | 15,028        |
| Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR)             | 69.2             | 69.4             | 71.2             | 0.2                            | 1.8           |
| Labour Force Absorption Rate E/PWA                 | 49.8             | 45.8             | 47.4             | -4.0                           | 1.6           |
| Unemployment Rate UE/LF                            | 27.9             | 34               | 33.4             | 6.1                            | -0.6          |
| Active Population by sex                           |                  |                  |                  |                                |               |
| Male Employed (EM)                                 | 368,358          | 358,270          | 361,508          | -10,088                        | 3,238         |
| Female Employed (EF)                               | 340,537          | 318,615          | 364,834          | -21,922                        | 46,219        |
| Male Unemployed (UEM)                              | 117,063          | 151,774          | 173,904          | 34,711                         | 22,130        |
| Female Unemployed (UEF)                            | 157,885          | 197,609          | 190,507          | 39,724                         | -7,102        |
| Male labour Force (MLF)                            | 485,421          | 510,044          | 535,412          | 24,623                         | 25,368        |
| Female Labour Force (FLF)                          | 498,422          | 516,224          | 555,341          | 17,802                         | 39,117        |
| Rates by sex                                       |                  |                  |                  |                                |               |
| Male Labour Absorption Rate (EM/PWAM)              | 54.4             | 51.0             | 49.6             | -3.4                           | -1.4          |
| Female Labour Absorption Rate (EF/PWAF)            | 45.7             | 41.1             | 45.4             | -4.6                           | 4.3           |
| Male Unemployment Rate UEM/(EM+UEM)                | 24.1             | 29.8             | 32.5             | 5.7                            | 2.7           |
| Female Unemployment Rate UEF/(EF+UEF)              | 31.7             | 38.3             | 34.3             | 6.6                            | -4.0          |
| Active Population for Youth 15 - 34 years (EY+UEY) |                  |                  |                  |                                |               |
| Youth Labour Force                                 | 525,782          | 566,999          | 576,624          | 41,217                         | 9,625         |
| Youth Employed (EY)                                | 320,954          | 320,737          | 310,854          | -217                           | -9,883        |
| Youth Unemployed (UEY)                             | 204,828          | 246,262          | 265,770          | 41,434                         | 19,508        |
| Youth Labour Absorption Rate (EY/PWAY)             | 38.8             | 37.5             | 35.4             | -1.3                           | -2.1          |
| Youth Unemployment Rate (UEY/(EY+UEY)              | 39.0             | 43.4             | 46.1             | 4.5                            | 2.7           |

## Executive Summary

This report presents the main findings of the Namibia Labour Force Survey of 2018. The survey was conducted by the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) with funding from the Government of the Republic of Namibia.

The survey collected data on the labour market activities of individuals aged eight (8) years and above who were present in Namibia on the reference night of the 30th September 2018. Interviewing of households started on the 1st October and ended on the 16th October 2018. Like in the preceding surveys, the LFS 2018 was conducted by interviewing individuals in private households excluding persons who were in institutions at the time of the survey.

The objective of this report is to provide the main

findings and indicators arising from the survey to promote understanding of the labour market situation prevailing in the country in 2018. The findings presented in this report will go a long way in providing the basis for better planning, policy formulation and labour-related discussions.

For international comparisons, the result presented in this report covers persons aged 15 years and older. The number of the estimated people aged 15 years and above in each economic status is shown in Figure 1 below.

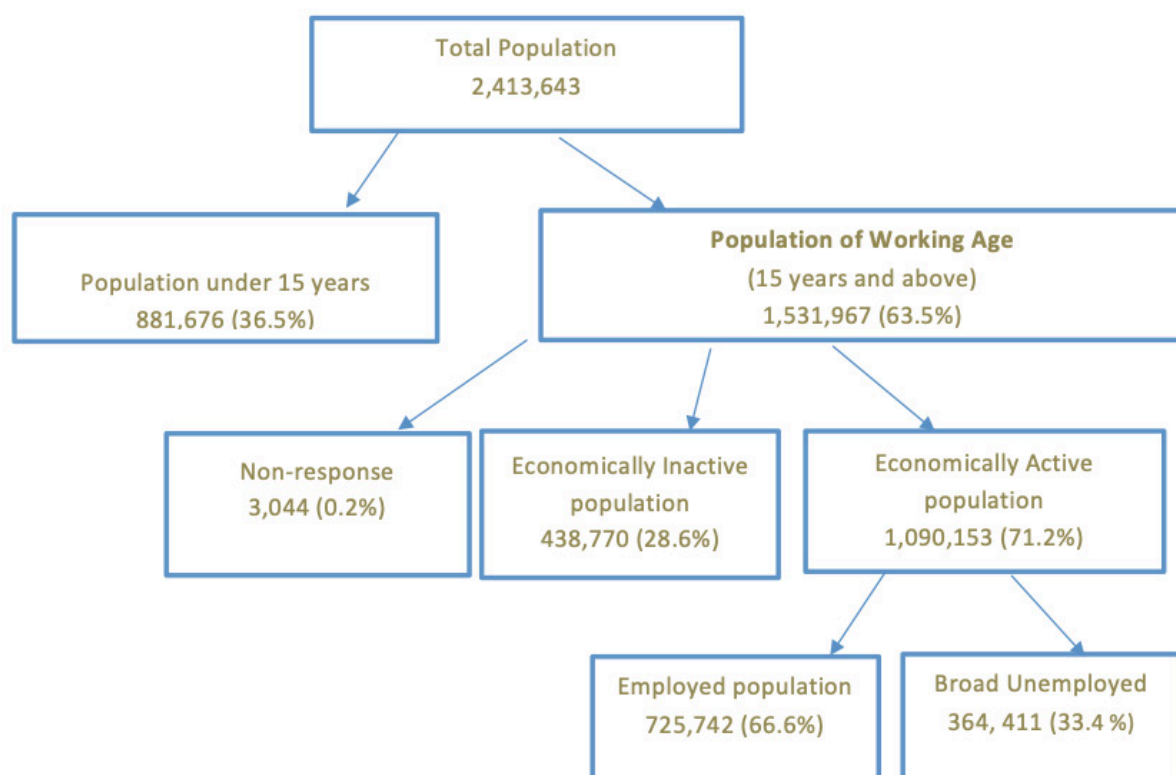




Figure 1: Population by activity status

Figure 1 shows that the estimated population in the working age (15 years and above) was 1,531,967. The Population in the labour force was 1,090,153, while the population outside the labour force was 438,770. The employed population increased by 48,857 persons since the last survey was conducted in 2016, while unemployment based on the broad definition decreased by 0.6 percentage points. Table 1 below presents a summary of the labour force indicators for Namibia for the year 2018.

for youth aged 15-24 years, Annexe C present the Questionnaire and Annexe D deals with the 2016 sampling technical report.

Table 1: Summary of the labour force indicators for Namibia for 2018.

| Basic indicators                          | 2018      |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Total population aged 15 years and older  | 1,531,967 |
| <b>Economically active population</b>     |           |
| Employed                                  | 725,742   |
| Unemployed – broad                        | 364,411   |
| Labour force                              | 1,090,153 |
| Labour force participation rate – broad   | 71.1      |
| Unemployment rate - broad                 | 33.4      |
| Accommodation and food service activities | 27,420    |

The Report consists of six chapters and four Annexe. Chapter 1 deals with introduction and methodological part of the survey, while Chapter 2 looks at the demographic characteristics, Chapter 3 Labour force participation, Chapter 4 presents the employment information, with Chapter 5 providing the unemployment information and finally Chapter 6 provides statistics on youth employment. Annexe A present tables for strict labour force statistics and youth aged 15-24 years, Annexe B present Tables



## Chapter 1: Methodology

### 1.1 Introduction

The Namibia Labour Force Survey 2018 herein referred to as the LFS 2018 throughout this report, was conducted with the objective of generating "timely collection and release of key socio-economic indicators for assessment of labour market conditions in Namibia." The survey covers key aspects of people's work, including education and training needed to equip them for work, status in employment, occupation, industry, wages/salaries, underemployment, informal employment, etc. More specifically, the survey was designed to provide detailed information on the following:

- a) Information on the size and structure of the country's work force;
- b) Information on the size of the informal employment;
- c) Elements for measuring the labour supply and the extent to which the available human resources are utilised in the production process of the economy;
- d) Employment and unemployment status;
- e) A basis for research in many areas ranging from testing labour market segmentation theories to formulating demographic models;

The first chapter of the LFS 2018 report presents the methodologies adopted in the execution of the survey. This chapter therefore provides useful information to potential users of the LFS 2018 results as to how the data was collected, its intended usage, strength and limitations.

One key objective of the LFS 2018 was to ensure the production of the labour force indicators that meet local, Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Africa Union (AU) and international standards for comparability purposes. It is hoped that continual production of reliable data from annual Labour Force Surveys will provide valuable inputs in the formulation and evaluation of economic and social policies, particularly in the areas of employment creation, and poverty reduction.

The wide range of employment data collected in

this survey will be of assistance to the Government of the Republic of Namibia in monitoring progress made in the implementation of various labour-related initiatives through national and international plans and Namibia's progress towards the attainment of Vision 2030.

### 1.2 Users and uses

Users of the LFSs often combine the LFS data with related data from other sources to provide an overall view of the state of the labour market and the economy of the country at large. Key users of LFS data in Namibia are government ministries, offices and agencies which use the data for monitoring and evaluation of developmental initiatives e.g. National Development Programmes (NDPs) aimed at employment and wealth creation in the country.

Other users of LFS data include local authorities, trade unions, employers' associations, non-governmental organisations, academics and research institutions, international organisations, private sectors, individuals and the general public.

At the international level, LFS data are used by various development partners in measuring the effectiveness of their programmes in the country. It is also used by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) for comparing the labour situations in Namibia with that of other countries and for assistance in formulating policies related to employment and labour situations in the country.

### 1.3 Strengths and limitations of LFS 2018

The strength of the LFS 2018 is that it is one of the largest household surveys in terms of labour force statistics coverage in Namibia in recent times. As a result, it provides reliable statistics necessary to estimate labour conditions for regional estimates in Namibia.

The sampling errors are relatively small, as a result of improved and modern methods of data collection using a combination of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for identification of boundaries of sampled Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) and selected households within PSUs. The improved methodology also ensures efficient geo-coding of the questionnaires during data capturing and processing.

Furthermore, the LFS 2018 followed the new adopted

NSA approach of using digital questionnaire in tablets to capture data during listing and data collection stages as was used during previous surveys. The paperless method made it possible to check for data inconsistencies interactively during the interview process as edit rules were included in the data entry application. Such approach enhances on time data integrity and reliability.

One of the limitations of the LFS 2018 is that the sample design does not guarantee adequate coverage of any industry, as the survey is household based and not industrially stratified. The LFS coverage was limited to persons in private households excluding those in institutions at the time of the survey, such as school hostels, army/police barracks, hospitals wards, etc. Household members residing in these institutions are only included if they live in their own private accommodation.

## 1.4 Organisation and preparation

### 1.4.1 Legal Basis

The LFS 2018 was conducted under the Statistics Act, 2011 (Act No.9 of 2011), which mandates the agency, among others, to constitute the central statistical authority of the country and to collect, produce, analyse and disseminate official and other statistics in Namibia. By virtue of this Act, all information collected that could be linked to identified individuals or households was kept strictly confidential.

The survey was conducted in close collaboration with key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Labour and Employment Creation and ILO that form part of the National Statistics System (NSS).

The collaboration took place in respect of the following areas:

- Review of variables and questions asked in the 2016 LFS
- Contribution to the drafting of the questionnaire for the 2018 LFS
- Conducting trainings for field staff

### 1.4.2 Stakeholders' workshop

The field operation was preceded by one stakeholders' workshop which was held in Windhoek. This workshop was conducted in January 2018 where the NSA presented to key stakeholders, the questionnaire, as well as activity plan for the survey. Below are the sections that were introduced in the 2018 LFS questionnaire that were not included in the 2016 LFS questionnaire. It should however be noted that analysis of the sections below are not part of this report.

- Hours worked on own use production
- Food security

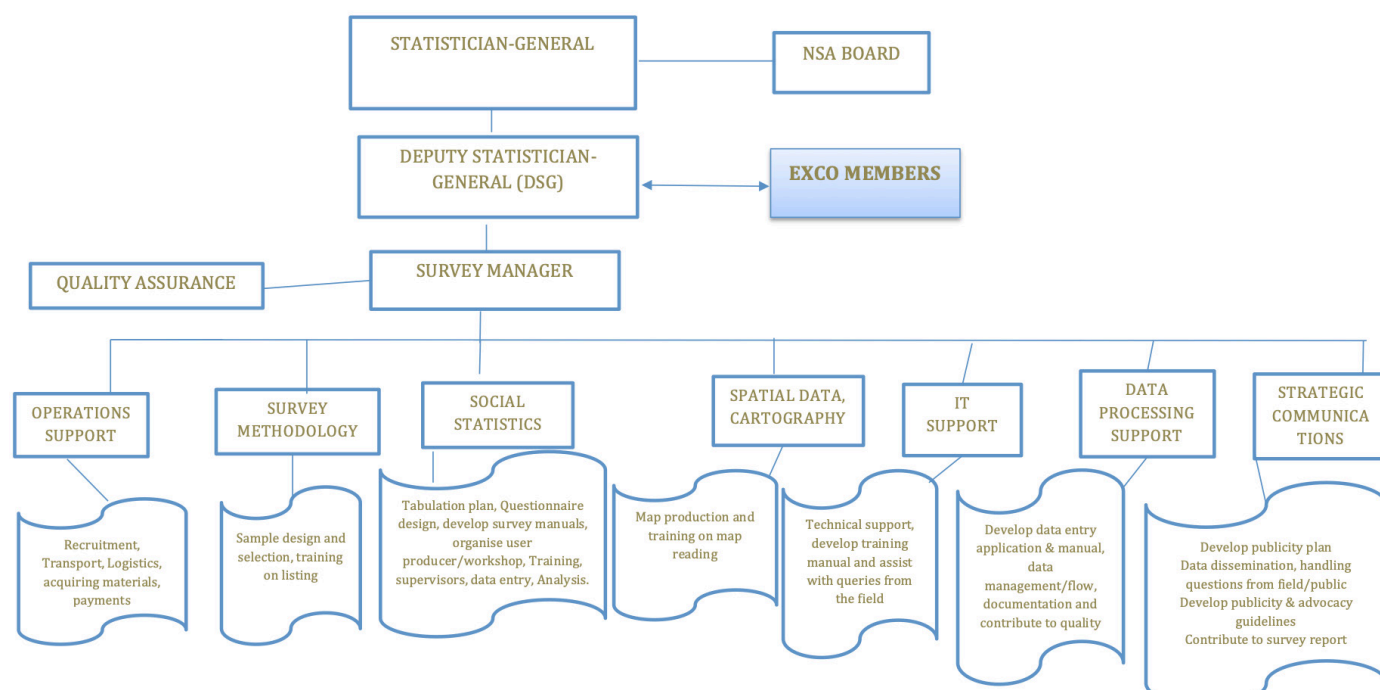
The workshop provided opportunity for key stakeholders to contribute to the improvements in the way questions were framed as well as ensuring that data to be collected are relevant for their uses. This is in line with one of the goals of the NSA, that is, to produce relevant statistics fit for evidence-based planning.

### 1.4.3 Survey organisation structure

The Surveys and Field Operations (SFO) division was responsible for planning, survey design, fieldwork, and administration of survey resources and progress reporting. The Social Statistics (SS) and the Demographic and Vital Statistics division of Demographic and Social Statistics (DSS) department was responsible for questionnaire design, analysis and report writing.

The Data Quality Assurance department provided guidelines and procedures that ensure the data collected meets quality standards as set out in the Namibia Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF), and the Data Collection, Processing and Dissemination Policy and Practice. SFO worked closely with the following departments/divisions: DSS, Legal, Data Processing, Information Technology Solution, Quality Assurance, Human Resources, Finance, Administration and Logistics and Strategic Communication. The survey progress was reported to the Statistician-General (SG) and the Executive Committee (EXCO) members on a bi-weekly basis or when requested to do so by the SG and this was done by SFO division and DSS department respectively.

## 1.5 Pilot survey



The main objective of the pilot was to test whether the survey tools including CAPI applications and questionnaire were adequate to provide the required data within a specified period of time. This also involved testing the adequacy of logistics and administrative arrangements on the ground.

The data processing plan was also tested through the use of the pilot survey data. The results for the pilot test were used to review and improve on the survey implementations in all areas of survey functionalities, such as review of the survey tools, draw up the final plans for the main survey, in order to provide final estimations of resources required to implement the survey activities effectively.

The pilot test was conducted for a period of two weeks, from 29th of July to 12th of August 2018. However, due to insufficient budget, the implementation of the pilot test was downgraded in line with the budget. In particular, the pilot was designed to cover a total of 12 PSUs by 3 teams resulting in an allocation of 4 PSUs per team, however due to budgetary constraints the approach was trimmed down to only one team covering 2 PSUs in the Khomas region.

### 1.6.1 Recruitment of field staff

The distribution of the survey field staff that was recruited during the undertaking of the LFS 2018 is presented in Table 1.1 below. In the Table, the total number of field staff who were trained and those who were employed in the survey and how they were allocated to respective regions are presented. Team Supervisors and Enumerators were recruited from the NSA field staff database while the positions of IT Field Technicians were advertised in the local print media.

## 1.6 Recruitment, training and fieldwork

**Table 1.1: Distribution of recruited, trained and deployed staff for LFS 2018**

| REGION       | Total # of PSU | Team supervisor (a) | TS reserves (b) | Enumerators (c) | Enumerators reserves (d) | Total for the training (TS & EN) | ITFT |
|--------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|------|
| !Karas       | 31             | 8                   | 1               | 16              | 1                        | 26                               | 1    |
| Erongo       | 45             | 12                  | 1               | 24              | 1                        | 38                               | 1    |
| Hardap       | 34             | 9                   | 1               | 18              | 1                        | 29                               | 1    |
| Kavango east | 40             | 10                  | 1               | 20              | 1                        | 32                               | 1    |
| Kavango west | 40             | 10                  | 1               | 20              | 1                        | 32                               | 1    |
| Khomas       | 63             | 16                  | 1               | 32              | 1                        | 50                               | 1    |
| Kunene       | 37             | 10                  | 1               | 20              | 1                        | 32                               | 1    |
| Ohangwena    | 44             | 11                  | 1               | 22              | 1                        | 35                               | 1    |
| Omaheke      | 33             | 9                   | 1               | 18              | 1                        | 29                               | 1    |
| Omusati      | 46             | 12                  | 1               | 24              | 1                        | 38                               | 1    |
| Oshana       | 41             |                     | 1               | 22              | 1                        | 35                               | 1    |
| Oshikoto     | 46             | 12                  | 1               | 24              | 1                        | 38                               | 1    |
| Otjozondjupa | 38             | 10                  | 1               | 20              | 1                        | 32                               | 1    |
| Zambezi      | 34             | 9                   | 1               | 18              | 1                        | 29                               | 1    |
| Total        | 572            | 149                 | 14              | 298             | 14                       | 475                              | 14   |

### 1.6.2 Training

During the LFS 2018, a number of trainings took place namely the master training, training of trainers and the main training. The master training is the first stage of training conducted for all NSA staff member who will form part of the survey to acquaint them with the survey methodologies and instruments. This intensive training was done for a period of one week.

The second stage of training comprised of a large number of staff from the NSA head office, MoL and field staff who will be involved in the field work for pilot. This training was called the pilot training. In preparation for the main training, a group of NSA staff from the head office, Regional Statisticians (RS), staff from MoL and 14 newly recruited Information Technology Field Technicians (ITFTs) attended a one-week training called a refresher/training of trainers (TOT).

This group was later deployed at different training centers to carry out the main training of the field staff. The main training was conducted at four (4) different towns/centers namely Ongwediva, Eenhana, Otjiwarongo and Rundu, whereby all 14 regions were grouped accordingly. An intensive training program on survey methodology, questionnaire, concepts and definitions and the use of data capturing application was carried out. Trainees were also subjected to various assessments and only the top performing candidates were selected to be part of the main survey fieldwork.

### 1.6.3 Survey field structure

The main survey consisted of field teams operating within a region under the supervision of regional supervisor who were the regional statisticians (RS). Each regional supervisor was supported by an ITFT. The ITFT provided IT support to the regional field team. Each field team consisted of a team supervisor and 2 interviewers.

Field personnel were recruited from their own areas since they were familiar with the local terrain/ locality and to facilitate interviews in local language. In total 447 field personnel (Interviewers and Team Supervisors) were in the field for a period of one month (30 days) during the data collection phase of the NLFS 2018.

The work plan was designed in such a way that the first two weeks were allocated for listing of private households within the selected PSU, while the last two weeks were allocated to the administering of the questionnaire using tablets to the sampled 18 private households in each PSU.

### 1.6.4 Survey publicity and advocacy

A Communication Strategy Plan focusing on advocacy and publicity of the LFS 2018 at national and regional level was developed. The most convenient method used was the distribution of flyers and pasting of posters to create awareness. During this activity, the Regional Statisticians were able to hold community meetings and had the opportunity to elaborate on the objectives of the survey. Mobilisation were done in each

and every selected PSU before commencement of listing and data collection exercises to ensure that local people were aware of the survey and what was expected of them.

Pamphlets about the survey were posted at traffic light intersections in PSUs with high income characteristics specifically in Khomas and Erongo regions. This was necessitated by the high refusals and non-contacts experienced in these areas during the past surveys. Courtesy visits to constituency and local councillors was also undertaken to introduce the survey and its components as well as to request for their assistance in informing their constituency inhabitants about the survey during their respective radio announcements and community meetings.

In addition, road shows were held in various urban centres in collaboration with the Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) out broadcasting programme to create awareness in the selected PSUs. FM Radio announcements complimented by newspaper articles and newspaper advertisements were also placed in local newspapers to inform the general public about the survey and its approach.

Television strips were run on NBC-TV before the News Bulletin and specific talk shows such as Good morning Namibia and Business Today programmes to announce the commencement of the survey. Finally, the Agency has also made use of Community Watch groups in the Khomas region to seek for their cooperation and support during the visitation of households

in their areas of operation. This approach proved to be very effective in informing respondents living in high income areas about the survey in order to minimize non-response rate.

#### 1.6.5 Field monitoring and data quality control

To ensure the collection of reliable, quality and timely data, a series of quality assurance activities were undertaken at different levels of monitoring.

This was done by Regional Statisticians, National Supervisors and Managers. The monitoring teams were sent to regions at the beginning of the listing and interviewing phase to ensure that the field work started off as planned and that all data collection procedures were followed as prescribed.

Monitoring teams were also involved in the observation of interviews by field staff to ensure that they are introducing the objectives of the survey properly and questions are asked as trained including the translation of questions from English to vernacular languages. In doing so, remedial actions were undertaken to improve the quality of the data.

### 1.7 Sampling Methods

#### 1.7.1 Sample design

A national sampling frame was used in the design of the sample. The national sampling frame is a list of small geographical areas called Primary Sampling Units (PSU), created using the

enumeration areas (EA) of which their demarcations are based on the 2011 Population and Housing Census. The measure of size in the frame is the number of households within a particular PSU of which the size ranges between 40 and 120 households. The frame units were stratified first by regions, and then by Urban/Rural areas within the regions.

The sample design was therefore a two-stage stratified cluster sample, where the first stage units were the PSUs and the second stage units were the households. Sample sizes were determined to give reliable estimates of the population characteristics at the regional level, the lowest domain of estimation for the LFS 2018.

Due to budget constrain for 2018 LFS and without compromising the quality of the estimates (see Sampling Technical Report), a total of 10,296 households constituted a representative sample from 572 PSUs across the country compared to 12,480 households and 624 PSUs for the 2016 LFS. Power allocation procedure was adopted to distribute the sample across the regions so that the smaller regions will get adequate samples.

#### 1.7.2 Sample Accountability

The sample was designed such that direct survey estimates could be produced at national, regional and urban/rural levels. The design weights were the inverse of the selection probabilities (i.e. Inverse sampling rate) at both first (PSU level) and second (Household level) stages. The PSUs that were found

to be larger or difficult to manage were segmented and their design weights adjusted accordingly to account for the third level selection (selection of segment). In order to account for household non-response, the design weights were adjusted for household non-response.

The non-response adjustment factor is defined as the ratio of the sampled households to the respondent households. The final step undertaken was in constructing the final weights at person level for the LFS 2018 was to calibrate the design weights such that the respective aggregate totals matched the distribution of the population across key demographic variables such as age and sex, urban/rural and regional level.

The control totals used for this calibration process were the 2018 population projections. This was achieved by using ReGenesee package in R software.

#### 1.7.3 Quality indicator for survey data

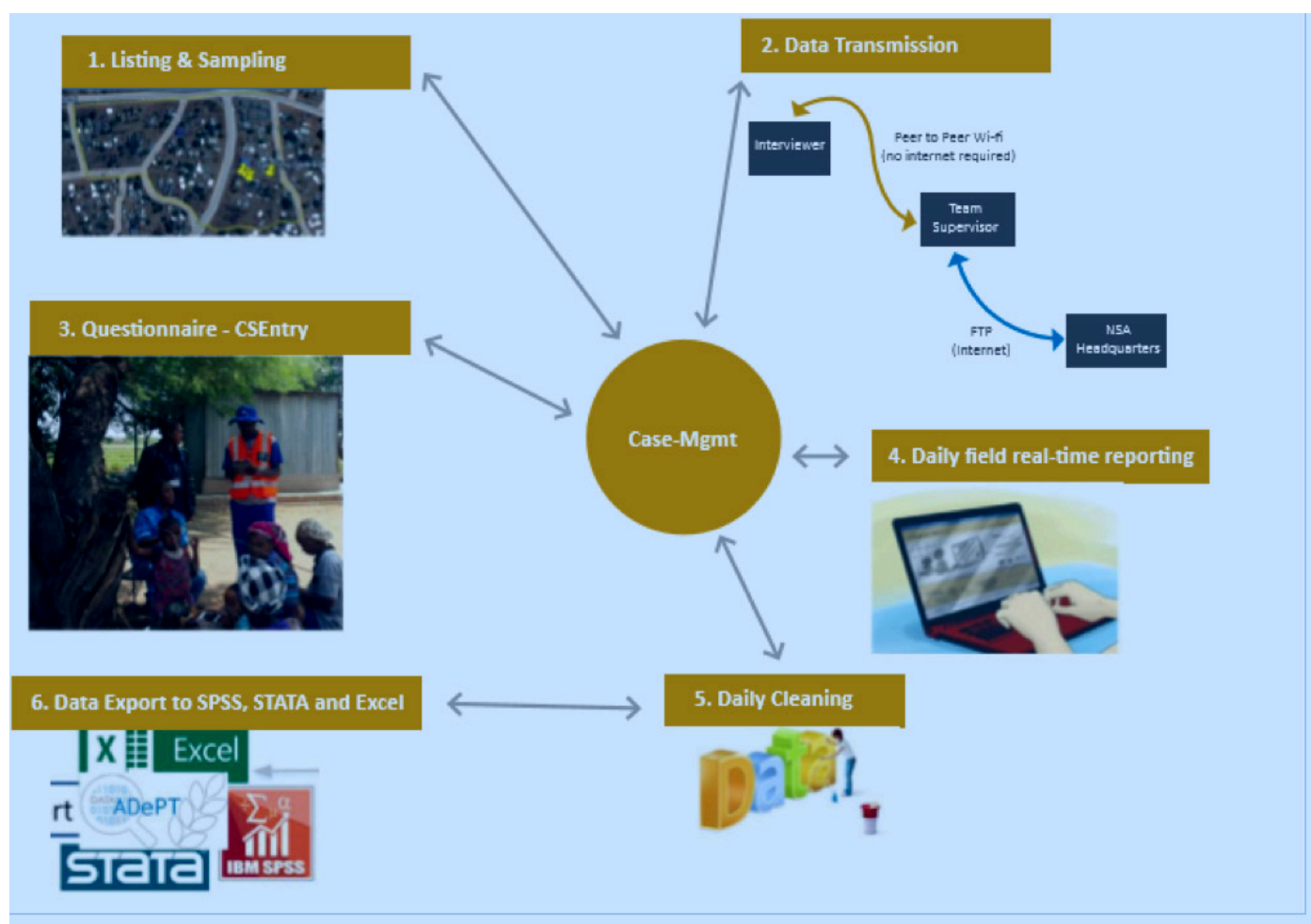
##### 1.7.3.1 Response rate

When the household sample was implemented, it was not possible to interview some of the households due to refusals and non-contacts. Thus, the overall response rate for this survey after both primary and secondary data processing exercises were completed was 94.5 percent.

### 1.8 Data Processing

The data processing methodology that was adopted for this study was the Computer Assisted Personal Interview method referred to as





CAPI. Data management tools to collect, transmit, store and clean survey data were designed and developed using CPro 6.3. Figure 1.2 below presents the process flow mapping.

**Figure 1.2: LFS data capturing and management process flow**

The programs developed are listed below and explained on how they were used in the field;

**a) In-field automated listing and sampling program**

Data processing developed a systematic sampling routine program. This reduced errors of supervisors not properly

following the sampling algorithm or introducing bias in the household selection. In addition, it ensured that substitution of households is done procedurally in that substitution households are selected from the same stratum as the households to be substituted.

**b) Case Management program**

This program allowed for the automation of the following field activities with minimum human interventions.

A team consisted of one supervisor and two interviewers. Interviewers listed households and then each independently transmitted the households' information to the supervisor's tablet. The supervisor then merged the listing files on a tablet and run the program to sample from the listed households.

The supervisor further assigns the sampled households to the respective interviewers. During the household interview, the interviewers will then transmit the household roster data to the supervisor in order to ensure data quality. In order to successfully transmit the data, the interviewers were required to validate all household data in the tablet, while the supervisors were required to validate all primary sampling units (PSUs) data in the tablet before transmitting the data further to the headquarter server.

At both levels of validation, if the data did not pass the validation tests, the staff concern was then required to provide an explanation as to why the submitted data are incomplete.

Case Management and data flow

was tightly controlled, but the system allowed for some flexibility. For instance, substitution of sampled households, was done with the assistance of the data processing team who provided codes to unlock the substitution action.

#### **c) Data Entry program**

Data entry application was built with many consistency checks, skipping patterns and other validations such as maximum and minimum acceptance range per variable. Supervisors were given minimum variables to check on a day to day basis, especially for other's specify (notes) variables. As a result, data consistency checks, coding and validation was done at field level. This minimized the time spent on post data cleaning, validation and editing process.

#### **d) Data synchronization program**

This program allowed for the following; Supervisors were given SIM cards and controlled transmission of data to the Head Office. Since MD5 (Message Digest 5 Algorithm) hashes was stored on the program, only modified data was transferred and only newly collected data was sent to head office.

Interviewers did not have SIM cards and hence, their programs and files were updated via the supervisor's tablets. Transmissions between supervisor's tablets and interviewer's tablets were done via a locally created WI-FI hotspot.

#### **e) Post data processing programs**

The implementation of CAPI application allowed for improved data quality due to consistency checks in the data entry application.

In-field coding using lookups files eliminated the need for a time consuming coding process at the Data Processing Centre (DPC). For this survey, data cleaning was divided into two (2) parts, primary cleaning and secondly cleaning.

Primary data cleaning was done by data processing unit and it involved the following programs and activities.

##### **(i) Concatenate program**

Data is transmitted to head office via ftp server and stored in folders by geographical hierarchy of the survey. The concatenate program was designed to concatenate data from each interviewer into one file per section. Then program takes the PSU level generated data and concatenates files per region to create a regional file. Subsequently, generate a national file for each section. In the end, there is PSU, Region and National folders created in this process.

##### **(ii) Submission Analysis program**

This program checks if all the sections have been validated and writes the finding to three output files (csv). These files are KEPT cases, Removed cases and Review cases. KEPT cases are all the validated and complete households found in the data file. Removed cases include all the households removed from the data files. These can be blank households or substituted households from the sampled households and/ or household with missing sections either for household or individual. Review cases consist of all the households that require input / decision from subject matter whether it should be KEPT or Removed from the data

file.

##### **(iii) Merge data program**

This program simply merges all the data per section into one file per household.

##### **(iv) Data consistency check program**

Numerous batch programs were developed to run through the data to sort and fix inconsistencies. Main programs developed were; Case specific edits program – this program allows implementing edit rules which are specific to a case (household), these rules are provided by subject matter after checking/ investigating each household. General edits program – this program fix any data inconsistency found during the run. Standardize data program – removes deleted persons and ensure that the head of household is on the first row for each household. In the end, only valid person lines are remaining in the data file. Recode variables program – this program recodes variable values from the notes (others specify) to different values based on the input from subject matter (SM).

An excel sheet is provided to SM to put the correct value for each case and variable for recoding, then program convert the excel sheet to CSpro data file and implements the changes. Add weight program – the weight is also applied through the CSpro post data processing program. Sampling team design weight (both individual and household) based on the completeness of survey interviews by PSU. Once the weight is applied to the dataset Data Processing (DP) runs the final Merge flatten program, which convert and



flatten the multi select answers into more human readable data. The final step is to drop the person identification information such as person's name from the dataset, this is done via an Anonymize data program.

The first stage of data processing activities end at this stage, with the production of the version one (1) dataset as output. The planning,

designing, developing, testing and implementing the survey data management programs took at six months before actual fieldwork, while the post data processing took only two (2) months to complete after the fieldwork. The next process is the secondly cleaning phase which was done by SM and produced version two (2) of the datasets.

### 1.8.1 Secondary data validation, edit checks and analysis

The Social Statistics Division (SSD) using their comprehensive STATA framework (shown in Figure 1.3 below) for processing Labour Force Survey micro data sets received from the Data Processing Division carryout secondary data validation.

## Concept map

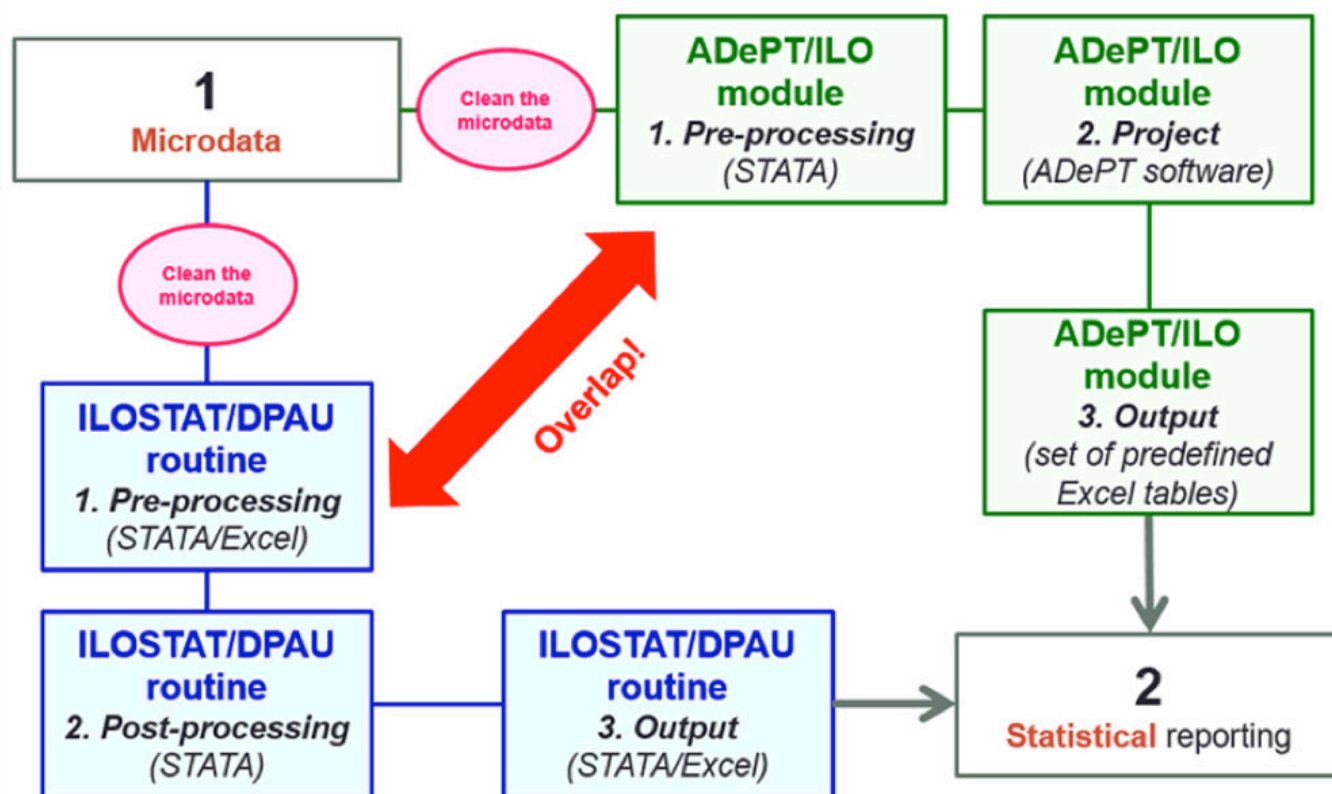


Figure 1.3: Framework for producing standardised variable and indicators from LFS

The first phase, involves pre-processing activities by Subject Matter (SM) of the micro data sets that was received from the Data Processing Division to strict and rigorous checks and validate whether the collected data followed the edits rules built into the CAPI application before the data collection. The process involves developing STATA do-files programs to automate the checking of all variables and flag violations of edit (e.g. skipping) rules, invalid geo-codes, missing data values, incorrect data values, monotonic data values; and cases and section with missing values etc.

Reports generated from the STATA software particularly where there were violations of the edit rules were reviewed case by case by the SM and decisions were arrived at how to treat such cases.

After the validation process, standard variable names and codes were generated from the validated data sets to allow for the production of internationally comparable labour market indicators. The variables included in the standard published micro-data set were selected on the basis of the structure and contents of previous LFS reports, demand from SADC/AU for Labour Market Information System indicators, and ILOSTAT, the ILO's corporate statistical database, for the production of indicators for publication on ILOSTAT.

### 1.8.2 Quality assurance

Data quality assurance is one of the cornerstones of a good statistical

data system, and institutions mandated with the responsibility of collecting labour statistics must ensure that the data passes the test before being released to the public and other users of LFS data. In this survey, a Total Quality Management (TQM') approach to quality assurance was employed to minimize the under/over-coverage, non-response and other issues that may affect the quality of labour survey estimates.

### 1.9 Basic terminologies in labour statistics

A major consideration with Labour Force Surveys is to ensure that the correct terminology is adopted. In order to be able to interpret the results from an LFS, it is essential to be familiar with different concepts and definitions that were used. Here we define several key concepts in labour statistics, as well as some standard survey terms. Some other concepts (such as informal employment) are defined in their respective sections later in this report.

**Age** was defined as the number of completed years lived by the respondent, i.e. age at last birthday.

**Aged dependency ratio** is the number of persons aged 65 and older divided by the population aged 15 – 64 years.

**Child dependency ratio** is the number of children aged 0 - 14 years divided by the population aged 15 – 64 years.

#### Economically inactive population:

All persons below the age of 15 years of age. In addition, all persons over 15 years of age who

are not in employment or who are not available for work since they are full-time learners or students, homemakers (people involved only in unpaid household duties), ill, disabled or on early retirement.

**Employed:** The employed comprise all persons of working age who during a specified brief period, such as one week or one day, were in the following categories: a) paid employment (whether at work or with a job but not at work); or b) self-employment (whether at work or with an enterprise but not at work). Temporary absence from work includes reasons such as illness, maternity and parental leave, holiday, training, and industrial disputes

**Household:** In this report, a household is defined as a group of people who normally live together, eat their meals together. For the LFS 'normally' means that the person concerned has lived in the household for at least six consecutive months of the past 12 months. Thus, the members of the household are identified on the basis of their 'usual place of residence.'

**Labour force:** comprises all persons of either sex who furnish the supply of labour for the production of economic goods and services as defined by the United Nations systems of national accounts and balances during a specified time-reference period. It therefore consists of all persons of working age who were either employed or unemployed.

**Labour force participation rate (also referred to as the economic activity rate):** The labour force

participation rate is the proportion of the economically active population in a given population group, i.e. the number of persons in the labour force given as a percentage of the working age population in that population group.

**Overall dependency ratio** is the sum of the child dependency ratio and the aged dependency ratio.

Private household: **A private household** is defined as one or more persons, related or unrelated, who live together in one (or part of one) or more than one dwelling unit and have common catering arrangements and answerable to the same head of household. A person who lives alone and caters for himself/herself forms a one-person household.

**Reference period:** In collecting data on current work activities, all questions relate to a short reference period of a week. This week is taken as comprising the seven calendar days preceding the interview date.

**Total Population:** All persons living in Namibia during the reference period.

**Unemployed in the strict sense:** The unemployed comprise all persons of working age who were: a) without work during the reference period, i.e. were not in paid employment or self-employment; b) currently available for work, i.e. were available for paid employment or self-employment during the reference period; and c) seeking work, i.e. had taken specific steps in a specified recent period to seek paid employment or self-employment

**Unemployed in the broad sense:** The unemployed comprise all

persons of working age who were: a) without work during the reference period, i.e. were not in paid employment or self-employment; and b) currently available for work, i.e. were available for paid employment or self-employment during the reference period

**Unemployment rate:** signals to some extent the underutilization of the labour supply. It reflects the inability of an economy to generate employment for those persons who want to work but are not doing so, even though they are available for employment and actively seeking work. It is thus seen as an indicator of the efficiency and effectiveness of an economy to absorb its labour force and of the performance of the labour market.

**Work:** The concept of work refers to persons who during the reference period performed some work for wage or salary, in cash or in kind (for paid employment), or persons who during the reference period performed some work for profit or family gain, in cash or in kind (for self-employment).

For operational purposes, the notion “some work” may be interpreted as work for at least one hour. Employed persons include those persons of working age who worked for at least one hour during the reference period as contributing family workers (formerly referred to as unpaid family workers) working in a family business.

## Chapter 2: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

This chapter provide information on demographic characteristics of the population such as age, and sex. These variables were used to describe the demographic profile of the Namibian population

### 5.1.1 Households and Population

Table 2.1 presents the distribution of the estimated total population by sex and area. The results show that female population continues to be higher than the male population, representing 51.4 percent of the total population compared to 48.6 percent for males. A similar trend was further observed in urban and rural areas. The margin between the Namibia population who live in rural areas (50.1%) and urban (49.9%) areas is very small (0.01%). Khomas region has the biggest proportion of people living in it, accounting for (18.5%) of the total population, followed by Ohangwena (10.8%), Omusati (10.5%), Oshikoto (8.3%) and Erongo (8.1%), while Omaheke has the smallest proportion of the people living in it at 3.1 percent followed by !Karas and Hardap at (3.7 %) and then Okavango west at (3.8 %).

Six regions in Namibia have predominantly more male population than females (Omaheke (52.9%), Erongo (52.8%), Otjozondjupa (51.5%), Hardap (51.3%) Kunene (50.7%) and !Karas (50.2%).

Table 2.1: Distribution of population by region, sex and area

| Area         | Number     |           |           |  | Percent    |      |        |
|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|--|------------|------|--------|
|              | Both Sexes | Male      | Female    |  | Both Sexes | Male | Female |
| Namibia      | 2,413,643  | 1,173,540 | 1,240,103 |  | 100        | 48.6 | 51.4   |
| Urban        | 1,203,340  | 586,616   | 616,724   |  | 49.9       | 48.7 | 51.3   |
| Rural        | 1,210,303  | 586,924   | 623,379   |  | 50.1       | 48.5 | 51.5   |
|              |            |           |           |  |            |      |        |
| !Karas       | 89,157     | 44,788    | 44,369    |  | 3.7        | 50.2 | 49.8   |
| Erongo       | 195,652    | 103,401   | 92,251    |  | 8.1        | 52.8 | 47.2   |
| Hardap       | 90,325     | 46,340    | 43,985    |  | 3.7        | 51.3 | 48.7   |
| Kavango East | 153,255    | 71,110    | 82,145    |  | 6.3        | 46.4 | 53.6   |
| Kavango West | 90,514     | 42,786    | 47,728    |  | 3.8        | 47.3 | 52.7   |
| Khomas       | 447,636    | 221,626   | 226,010   |  | 18.5       | 49.5 | 50.5   |
| Kunene       | 102,485    | 52,005    | 50,480    |  | 4.2        | 50.7 | 49.3   |
| Ohangwena    | 260,190    | 120,347   | 139,843   |  | 10.8       | 46.3 | 53.7   |
| Omaheke      | 75,734     | 40,043    | 35,691    |  | 3.1        | 52.9 | 47.1   |
| Omusati      | 252,931    | 114,150   | 138,781   |  | 10.5       | 45.1 | 54.9   |
| Oshana       | 194,577    | 88,370    | 106,207   |  | 8.1        | 45.4 | 54.6   |
| Oshikoto     | 200,686    | 96,868    | 103,818   |  | 8.3        | 48.3 | 51.7   |
| Otjozondjupa | 158,237    | 81,558    | 76,679    |  | 6.6        | 51.5 | 48.5   |
| Zambezi      | 102,264    | 50,148    | 52,116    |  | 4.2        | 49.0 | 51.0   |

The age, sex and size of a population are very important indicators for labour force estimations. Hence, for the purpose of this report we have group the population by the following broader age groups: 15-24; 25-34; 35-54; 55-64 and 65+ (65 years and above) to be used to estimate the Key Indicators of the Labour Market (KILM)

Table 2.2 shows the distribution of the population by sex, broad age group and area. Analysis presented in this report focuses on the working age population for ages 15 years and above. This age group (15+) makes up 1,531,967 persons or 63 percent of the total population of which the majority (876,908 persons)

or 36 percent of the total population were the youth (in the age group of 15-34 years).

The Youth (age 15-34) represent 57 percent of the working age population. Therefore, in the analysis of the survey results at both national and regional levels, the youth will be defined as above in line with the Namibian, SADC and the African Union definition. However, for international comparisons, the youth will be defined as persons in the age-group 15-24 in line with the United Nations recommendations (see ANNEX B).

**Table 2.2: Population of Namibia by sex, area and broad age group**

| Broad age group               | Namibia    |           |           | Urban      |         |         | Urban      |         |         |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|---------|---------|------------|---------|---------|
|                               | Both Sexes | Male      | Female    | Both Sexes | Male    | Female  | Both Sexes | Male    | Female  |
| 0-14                          | 881,676    | 444,823   | 436,853   | 375,451    | 188,625 | 186,826 | 506,225    | 256,198 | 250,027 |
| 15-24                         | 477,076    | 235,958   | 241,118   | 204,147    | 94,844  | 109,303 | 272,929    | 141,114 | 131,815 |
| 25-34                         | 399,832    | 195,178   | 204,654   | 271,585    | 131,696 | 139,889 | 128,247    | 63,482  | 64,765  |
| 35-44                         | 269,890    | 129,865   | 140,025   | 174,231    | 86,465  | 87,766  | 95,659     | 43,400  | 52,259  |
| 45-54                         | 175,742    | 81,175    | 94,567    | 97,547     | 48,450  | 49,097  | 78,195     | 32,725  | 45,470  |
| 55-64                         | 105,998    | 45,241    | 60,757    | 50,154     | 24,142  | 26,012  | 55,844     | 21,099  | 34,745  |
| 65+                           | 103,429    | 41,300    | 62,129    | 30,225     | 12,394  | 17,831  | 73,204     | 28,906  | 44,298  |
| Total                         | 2,413,643  | 1,173,540 | 1,240,103 | 1,203,340  | 586,616 | 616,724 | 1,210,303  | 586,924 | 623,379 |
| 15+ (Working Age)             | 1,531,967  | 728,717   | 803,250   | 827,889    | 397,991 | 429,898 | 704,078    | 330,726 | 373,352 |
| Percent (%)                   | 63         | 62        | 65        | 69         | 68      | 70      | 58         | 56      | 60      |
| 15-64 (Core working Group)    | 1,428,538  | 687,417   | 741,121   | 797,664    | 385,597 | 412,067 | 630,874    | 301,820 | 329,054 |
| Percent (%)                   | 59         | 59        | 60        | 66         | 66      | 67      | 52         | 51      | 53      |
| 15-34 (Namibia Youth)         | 876,908    | 431,136   | 445,772   | 475,732    | 226,540 | 249,192 | 401,176    | 204,596 | 196,580 |
|                               | 36         | 37        | 36        | 40         | 39      | 40      | 33         | 35      | 32      |
| 60+ (Pensionable age Namibia) | 209,427    | 86,541    | 122,886   | 80,379     | 36,536  | 43,843  | 129,048    | 50,005  | 79,043  |
| Percent (%)                   | 9          | 7         | 10        | 7          | 6       | 7       | 11         | 9       | 13      |

### 5.1.2 Age Dependency Ratio

The dependency ratio is defined as the ratio of children aged 0-14 and persons aged 65 years and older per 100 persons in the aged group of 15-64 years old (core working age group).

Table 2.3 presents the age dependency ratios for Namibia for the 2014, 2016 and 2018 LFS's. It is observed from the table that overall the dependency ratio in Namibia has slightly decreased

from 69.1 percent in 2016 to 69.0 percent in 2018.

This implies no significant change in the population age structure between 2016 and 2018 as there were about 69 dependants for every 100 persons in the core working age group.

| Table 2.3: Dependency ratios for 2014, 2016 and 2018 |            |       |            |       |            |       |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| Age group                                            | 2014       |       | 2016       |       | 2018       |       |
|                                                      | Dependency |       | Dependency |       | Dependency |       |
|                                                      | Number     | ratio | Number     | ratio | Number     | ratio |
| 0-14                                                 | 815,294    | 61.8  | 846,195    | 61.5  | 881,676    | 61.7  |
| 65+                                                  | 103,960    | 7.9   | 103,259    | 7.5   | 103,429    | 7.2   |
| Total                                                | 919,254    | 69.7  | 949,454    | 69.1  | 985,105    | 69.0  |

Namibia has a retirement policy, where at age 60 years go on retirement. This has an implication on the number of people who remain in the Core working group, which has an impact on the dependency ratio in Namibia. Table 2.3.1 compares two-dependency ratio at two different core working group ages. The result shows that, by having a retirement policy of age

60 will increase the dependency ratio to 75 people for every 100 people in the core working group of age 15-59 compare to 69 people for every 100 people in the core working group of age 16-64. This means an increase of the dependency ratio by 6 people if the core-working group is reduced to age 15-59. Hence, any policy that will reduce the retirement age

will increase the dependency ratio and hence increase burden on the core working group.

### 5.1.3 Households main source of income

| Table 2.3.1 Dependency ratio using Namibia retirement age of 60 Years |                    |       |         |       |         |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| Age group                                                             | (Age 0-14 and 60+) |       |         |       |         |       |
|                                                                       | Number             | Ratio | Number  | Ratio | Number  | Ratio |
| 0-14                                                                  | 815,294            | 61.8  | 846,195 | 61.5  | 881,676 | 61.7  |
| 65+                                                                   | 103,960            | 7.9   | 103,259 | 7.5   | 103,429 | 7.2   |
| Total                                                                 | 919,254            | 69.7  | 949,454 | 69.1  | 985,105 | 69.0  |
|                                                                       |                    |       |         |       |         |       |

The LFS questionnaire included household questions concerning the source of household income based on the head of households. The following nine codes were available, and the interviewer was expected to choose one item on the list as the main source of income, depending on the response from the respondent, with the possibility of a further source on the list as secondary source of income applicable:

- 1 = Subsistence farming (crop & animal)
- 2 = Cash cropping commercial
- 3 = Animal rearing commercial

- 4 = Business activities (non-agricultural)
- 5 = Salaries and/or wages
- 6 = Old age pension
- 7 = Pension from employment
- 8 = Cash remittances
- 9 = other means of income, specify.....

The resulting main sources of income by area are presented in Table 2.4. Overall, 47.4 percent of households in Namibia indicated that Salaries and/or wages are their main source of income. This is followed by Subsistence farming accounting for 19.8 percent of

all the households in Namibia. In addition, Business activities, non-farming (9.5%) and State old age pension (8.3%). While very few households depend on Commercial farming and Drought relief assistance (0.5% each), Pensions from employment and/or annuity funds and Disability grants for adults (over 16 years) (1.1% each) and State child maintenance grants (1.2%) as main source of income for their households.

It was further observed that there were major differences in the sources of income between urban



and rural areas. In urban areas, 63.3 percent of the households depends mainly on salaries and/or wages as the source of income whereas in rural areas, 41.6 percent of households depended on subsistence farming as the main source of income.

At regional level, ten (10) regions reported that salaries and/or wages as their main sources of income except for Ohangwena (60.6%), Omusati (58.8%), Kavango

West (57.1%) and Oshikoto (42.1%) where households reported subsistence farming as their main source of income.

**Table 2.4: Percentage of households by main source of income and region**

| Area         | Salaries and/or wages | Subsistence farming | Business activities, non-farming | State old age pension | Cash remittances (not incl. alimony/ child support) | Others | In kind receipts | State child maintenance grants | Pensions from employment and/or annuity funds | Disability grants for adults (over 16 years) | Drought relief assistance | Commercial farming | Total |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Namibia      | 47.4                  | 19.8                | 9.5                              | 8.3                   | 5.0                                                 | 3.1    | 2.5              | 1.2                            | 1.1                                           | 1.1                                          | 0.5                       | 0.5                | 100   |
| Urban        | 63.3                  | 2.0                 | 14.1                             | 5.8                   | 5.9                                                 | 3.5    | 2.0              | 1.0                            | 1.0                                           | 0.9                                          | 0.3                       | 0.2                | 100   |
| Rural        | 27.8                  | 41.6                | 3.9                              | 11.3                  | 4.0                                                 | 2.5    | 3.1              | 1.5                            | 1.3                                           | 1.2                                          | 0.8                       | 0.9                | 100   |
| !Karas       | 73.1                  | 0.5                 | 5.5                              | 9.4                   | 1.9                                                 | 2.3    | 2.2              | 1.1                            | 1.7                                           | 0.7                                          | 0.4                       | 1.0                | 100   |
| Erongo       | 67.5                  | 0.3                 | 12.6                             | 5.2                   | 3.7                                                 | 5.0    | 1.7              | 0.3                            | 2.4                                           | 0.9                                          | 0.1                       | 0.3                | 100   |
| Hardap       | 60.0                  | 2.4                 | 8.2                              | 12.0                  | 3.5                                                 | 1.7    | 2.9              | 1.7                            | 1.7                                           | 2.0                                          | 2.3                       | 1.6                | 100   |
| Kavango East | 33.5                  | 21.5                | 9.5                              | 10.8                  | 5.7                                                 | 3.9    | 9.4              | 1.0                            | 1.7                                           | 2.5                                          | 0.2                       | 0.2                | 100   |
| Kavango West | 15.9                  | 57.1                | 2.9                              | 9.6                   | 2.5                                                 | 1.1    | 6.7              | 0.6                            | 1.0                                           | 1.7                                          | 0.6                       | 0.2                | 100   |
| Khomas       | 68.3                  | 0.3                 | 14.4                             | 4.2                   | 5.3                                                 | 3.5    | 1.4              | 0.9                            | 0.6                                           | 0.7                                          | 0.3                       | 0.4                | 100   |
| Kunene       | 42.3                  | 13.1                | 10.5                             | 11.5                  | 4.4                                                 | 1.3    | 10.2             | 2.5                            | 1.6                                           | 1.8                                          | 0.2                       | 0.5                | 100   |
| Ohangwena    | 15.3                  | 60.6                | 5.2                              | 8.9                   | 5.9                                                 | 1.1    | 0.7              | 0.3                            | 0.5                                           | 1.1                                          | 0.1                       | 0.2                | 100   |
| Omaheke      | 52.1                  | 7.2                 | 7.7                              | 14.6                  | 4.2                                                 | 2.0    | 3.5              | 3.5                            | 1.4                                           | 1.4                                          | 0.1                       | 2.2                | 100   |
| Omusati      | 21.9                  | 58.8                | 3.6                              | 7.7                   | 2.8                                                 | 1.1    | 1.9              | 0.8                            | 0.7                                           | 0.4                                          | 0.0                       | 0.1                | 100   |
| Oshana       | 36.6                  | 18.9                | 14.8                             | 10.1                  | 11.5                                                | 3.2    | 0.1              | 1.4                            | 0.8                                           | 0.8                                          | 1.5                       | 0.3                | 100   |
| Oshikoto     | 32.7                  | 42.1                | 3.4                              | 9.7                   | 4.1                                                 | 1.9    | 1.1              | 1.3                            | 1.2                                           | 1.4                                          | 0.6                       | 0.5                | 100   |
| Otjozondjupa | 61.7                  | 2.6                 | 9.9                              | 9.1                   | 3.5                                                 | 4.3    | 2.2              | 3.0                            | 1.2                                           | 0.9                                          | 0.8                       | 0.9                | 100   |
| Zambezi      | 39.9                  | 9.7                 | 11.0                             | 11.3                  | 8.4                                                 | 9.2    | 3.2              | 2.0                            | 0.9                                           | 1.7                                          | 2.2                       | 0.5                | 100   |

**Note:** Others includes: Rental income; Interest from savings/ investments; War veterans/ Ex-combatants grant; State foster care grant; Vulnerable grant; Alimony and similar allowances.



## CHAPTER 3: LABOUR FORCE AND INACTIVE POPULATION

In the labour force framework (see Figure 1), the entire working age population is divided into two major groups: economically active and economically inactive. The active population which is referred to as the “labour force,” is further composed of the employed and the unemployed persons.

### 3.1 Labour force

A person's current activity status is a key concept in Labour Force Surveys. A person is classified into one of two main categories depending on whether one is economically active (that is

employed and unemployed), and economically inactive based on their activities over the past seven days. The employed and the unemployed persons aged 15 years and above together constitute the national labour force.

The measure of unemployment is affected by how unemployment is defined. Namibia generally uses the broad definition of unemployment which requires that the person was available for work in the preceding seven days but does not require that the person actively sought for work. This is in line with the international as well as the SADC and the African Union definition of unemployment. This broad measure is considered appropriate for developing countries where there are limited formal avenues through which people can look

for work. The strict definition of unemployment requires that the person was available for work and took active steps to find work. The strict definition is used at some places in this report to allow comparison with other countries, but the broad definition is regarded as the standard national measure.

Table 3.1 presents the populations in the labour force by sex, area and five-year age group. There are 1,090,153 persons aged 15 years and older in the labour force in 2018. This indicates a net increase of 63,885 persons compared to the figure of 1,026,268 persons recorded in 2016. A similar trend was observed across the sex distribution with an increase of 38,517 among females and 25,368 among males compare to the 2016 LFS figures.

Table 3.1: Distribution of persons in the labour force, by sex, age group, and area (broad)

[illegible]

|              |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 15-19        | 4.7        | 5          | 4.5        | 3.2        | 2.9        | 3.6        | 6.8        | 8          | 5.6        |
| 20-24        | 15.1       | 15.3       | 15         | 12.1       | 11.3       | 12.9       | 19.2       | 20.8       | 17.8       |
| 25-29        | 17.6       | 17.8       | 17.4       | 19.9       | 19.3       | 20.4       | 14.6       | 15.7       | 13.6       |
| 30-34        | 15.4       | 15.5       | 15.3       | 19.6       | 19.6       | 19.6       | 9.8        | 9.7        | 9.8        |
| 35-39        | 12.3       | 12.4       | 12.2       | 14.6       | 14.7       | 14.4       | 9.2        | 9          | 9.3        |
| 40-44        | 10.3       | 10.3       | 10.2       | 11         | 11.3       | 10.8       | 9.2        | 8.9        | 9.5        |
| 45-49        | 8          | 7.9        | 8.1        | 8          | 8.2        | 7.8        | 8          | 7.5        | 8.5        |
| 50-54        | 5.9        | 5.9        | 6          | 5.6        | 6.1        | 5.2        | 6.4        | 5.6        | 7.1        |
| 55-59        | 4.4        | 4.2        | 4.7        | 3.8        | 4.1        | 3.4        | 5.3        | 4.3        | 6.2        |
| 60-64        | 2.2        | 2.1        | 2.3        | 1.3        | 1.6        | 1          | 3.4        | 2.8        | 4          |
| 65+          | 4          | 3.8        | 4.2        | 1          | 1.1        | 0.9        | 8.1        | 7.6        | 8.5        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> |

Table 3.2 below indicates that generally the working age population (ages 15+) in 2018 has increase by 6.2 percent in Namibia since 2016 and in urban areas by 4.8 percent while in rural areas the increase was 10.7 percent. The table also indicate that the percentage change is greater for females compare to male persons

especially in rural areas where female working age population has increased to 10.7 percent. Urban areas had 623,832 persons aged 15 years and above in the labour force, while Rural areas had 466,322 persons in 2018.

| Table 3.2: Comparison of the labour force (aged 15+) by sex, urban and rural 2016-2018 |            |            |            |            |            |            |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Age group                                                                              | Namibia    | Urban      |            |            | Rural      |            |             |
|                                                                                        |            | Both Sexes | Male       | Female     | Both Sexes | Male       | Female      |
| 2018                                                                                   | 1,090,153  | 623,831    | 312,146    | 311,685    | 466,322    | 223,266    | 243,056     |
| 2016                                                                                   | 1,026,268  | 595,500    | 298,745    | 296,755    | 430,768    | 211,300    | 219,469     |
| Change                                                                                 | 63,885     | 28,332     | 13,401     | 14,930     | 35,553     | 11,966     | 23,587      |
| <b>Percentage change (%)</b>                                                           | <b>6.2</b> | <b>4.8</b> | <b>4.5</b> | <b>5.0</b> | <b>8.3</b> | <b>5.7</b> | <b>10.7</b> |

### 3.2 Labour Force Participation Rate

The labour force participation rate is the proportion of the economically active population in a given working age population, i.e. the number of persons in the labour force given as a percentage of the working age population in that population group. Table

3.3 provides the population in the labour force by five-year age groupings for urban and rural areas.

The national Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) was 71.2 percent which increased from 69.4 percent recorded in 2016. As one would expect, the youngest group, those aged 15 to 19 years (LFPR

21.6%) and the older group aged 65 years and above (LFPR 42.4%) have the least LFPR.

This is because the young once, are mostly still at school and not economically active, while the older group is in retirement and not available to work, hence not economically active either.

The table also indicates that LFPR

was lower in rural areas (LFPR 66.2%) than in urban areas (LFPR 75.4%). Furthermore, the table reveals that LFPR was lower in general for age groups in rural areas as compared with similar age groups in the urban areas, except

in the age group of 65+ where LFPR was higher in rural areas.

Comparing LFPR between 2018 LFS and 2016 LFS, it is worth noting that overall participation rate has increase from 69.4 percent in 2016 to 71.2 percent, but LFPR

has decrease in Urban areas from 77.1 percent to 75.4 percent while rural LFPR has increase from 61.0 percent to 66.2 percent.

| Age group | Namibia     |              |        | Urban       |              |        | Rural   |              |        |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------------|--------|---------|--------------|--------|
|           | Working age | Labour Force | LFPR % | Working age | Labour Force | LFPR % |         | Labour Force | LFPR % |
| 15-19     | 238,928     | 51,627       | 21.6   | 93,739      | 20,101       | 21.4   | 145,189 | 31,527       | 21.7   |
| 20-24     | 238,148     | 165,154      | 69.3   | 110,408     | 75,587       | 68.5   | 127,740 | 89,567       | 70.1   |
| 25-29     | 218,476     | 192,085      | 87.9   | 139,853     | 124,000      | 88.7   | 78,623  | 68,085       | 86.6   |
| 30-34     | 181,356     | 167,757      | 92.5   | 131,732     | 122,145      | 92.7   | 49,624  | 45,612       | 91.9   |
| 35-39     | 146,942     | 133,811      | 91.1   | 99,126      | 90,964       | 91.8   | 47,816  | 42,847       | 89.6   |
| 40-44     | 122,948     | 111,770      | 90.9   | 75,105      | 68,766       | 91.6   | 47,843  | 43,004       | 89.9   |
| 45-49     | 97,642      | 87,092       | 89.2   | 55,972      | 49,782       | 88.9   | 41,670  | 37,311       | 89.5   |
| 50-54     | 78,100      | 64,723       | 82.9   | 41,575      | 34,975       | 84.1   | 36,525  | 29,748       | 81.4   |
| 55-59     | 60,987      | 48,264       | 79.1   | 30,245      | 23,409       | 77.4   | 30,742  | 24,855       | 80.9   |
| 60-64     | 45,011      | 24,058       | 53.4   | 19,909      | 7,977        | 40.1   | 25,102  | 16,081       | 64.1   |
| 65+       | 103,429     | 43,812       | 42.4   | 30,225      | 6,126        | 20.3   | 73,204  | 37,685       | 51.5   |
| Namibia   | 1,531,967   | 1,090,153    | 71.2   | 827,889     | 623,831      | 75.4   | 704,078 | 466,322      | 66.2   |

The above results are further amplified in figures 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 which presents the corresponding labour force participation rates (LFPR) by age group in graphical form for Namibia as well as urban

and rural areas. The three graphs show similar trends for males and females for all age groups where male LFPR is generally higher than that of female with relatively bigger gap at the end of the tail.

In all instances the graph indicates that the labour force participation increases with age from 15 years, peaking in the age group 35 to 39 years and begins to decline from the age group of 45 to 49 years.

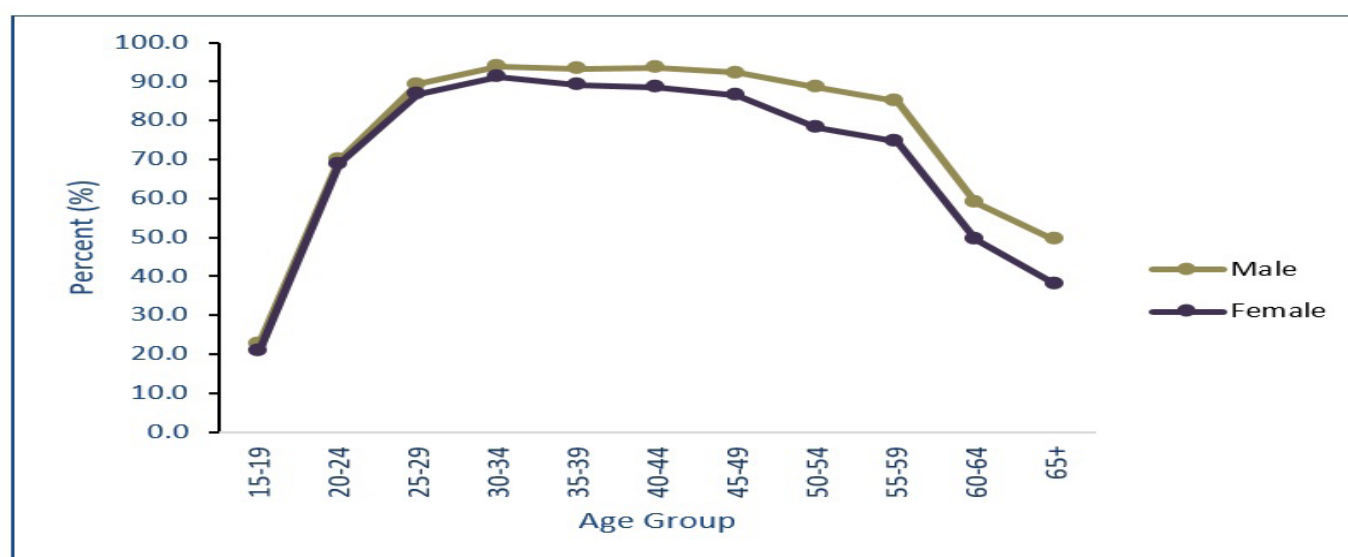


Figure 3.1: Labour force participation rates by age group and sex, Namibia

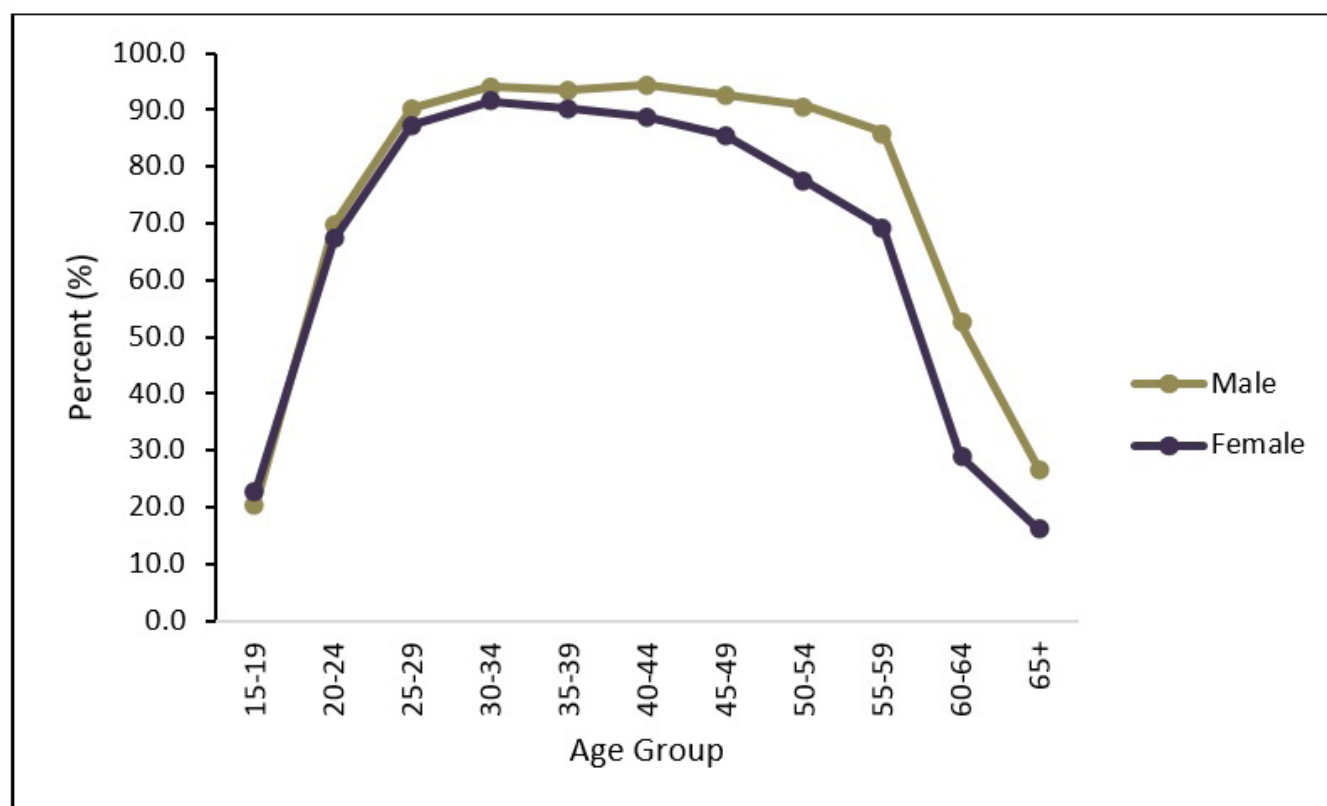


Figure 3.2: Labour force participation rates by age group and sex, urban

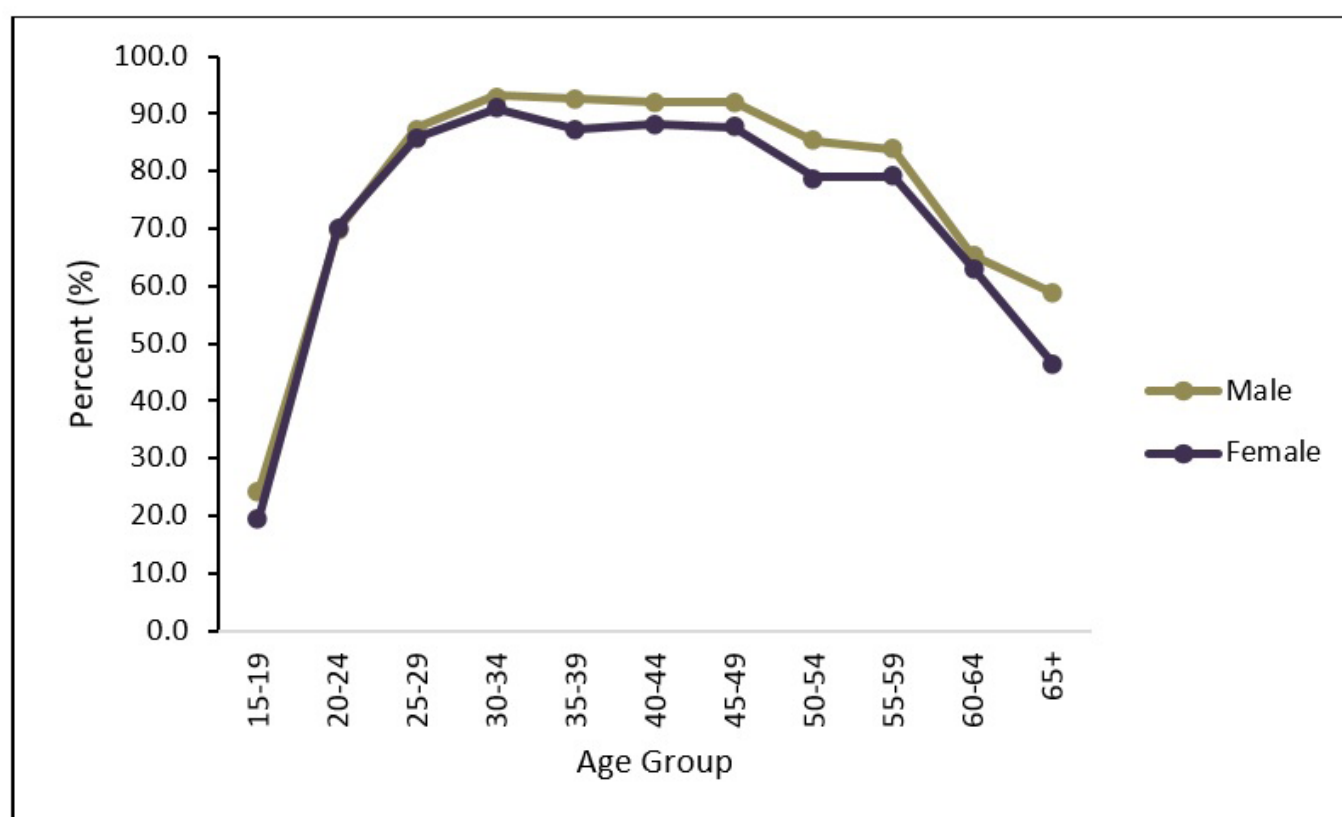


Figure 3.3: Labour force participation rates by age group and sex, rural

The broad labour force participation rates by sex and area is presented in Table 3.4. Most of the regions recorded a high LFPR which is

well over 65 percent except for Ohangwena (62.2%) and Kavango East (63.5%) regions. Erongo region recorded the highest LFPR of 80.9

percent followed by Khomas and Otjozondjupa regions with 76.8 and 76.1 percent respectively.

**Table 3.4: Labour force participation rates by sex and area (broad)**

| Age group    | Total       |              |        | Male        |              |        | Female  |              |        |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------|-------------|--------------|--------|---------|--------------|--------|
|              | Working age | Labour Force | LFPR % | Working age | Labour Force | LFPR % |         | Labour Force | LFPR % |
| Namibia      | 1,531,967   | 1,090,153    | 71.2   | 728,717     | 535,412      | 73.5   | 803,250 | 554,741      | 69.1   |
| Urban        | 827,889     | 623,831      | 75.4   | 397,991     | 312,146      | 78.4   | 429,898 | 311,685      | 72.5   |
| Rural        | 704,078     | 466,322      | 66.2   | 330,726     | 223,266      | 67.5   | 373,352 | 243,056      | 65.1   |
| !Karas       | 61,636      | 45,585       | 74.0   | 30,972      | 24,100       | 77.8   | 30,664  | 21,485       | 70.1   |
| Erongo       | 139,472     | 112,800      | 80.9   | 75,018      | 64,394       | 85.8   | 64,454  | 48,406       | 75.1   |
| Hardap       | 60,451      | 40,769       | 67.4   | 31,244      | 23,178       | 74.2   | 29,207  | 17,591       | 60.2   |
| Kavango East | 89,391      | 56,799       | 63.5   | 39,312      | 24,708       | 62.9   | 50,079  | 32,092       | 64.1   |
| Kavango West | 48,187      | 31,459       | 65.3   | 21,200      | 13,342       | 62.9   | 26,987  | 18,117       | 67.1   |
| Khomas       | 314,224     | 241,321      | 76.8   | 154,403     | 123,262      | 79.8   | 159,821 | 118,059      | 73.9   |
| Kunene       | 59,474      | 42,549       | 71.5   | 30,133      | 22,211       | 73.7   | 29,341  | 20,338       | 69.3   |
| Ohangwena    | 147,906     | 91,955       | 62.2   | 63,770      | 38,244       | 60.0   | 84,136  | 53,711       | 63.8   |
| Omaheke      | 45,756      | 33,571       | 73.4   | 24,686      | 19,577       | 79.3   | 21,070  | 13,994       | 66.4   |
| Omusati      | 154,450     | 101,786      | 65.9   | 64,560      | 42,028       | 65.1   | 89,890  | 59,758       | 66.5   |
| Oshana       | 127,139     | 90,757       | 71.4   | 54,834      | 39,184       | 71.5   | 72,305  | 51,574       | 71.3   |
| Oshikoto     | 123,575     | 84,719       | 68.6   | 57,800      | 40,748       | 70.5   | 65,775  | 43,971       | 66.9   |
| Otjozondjupa | 97,873      | 74,481       | 76.1   | 50,789      | 39,906       | 78.6   | 47,084  | 34,576       | 73.4   |
| Zambezi      | 62,433      | 41,600       | 66.6   | 29,996      | 20,530       | 68.4   | 32,437  | 21,070       | 65.0   |

The distribution of the LFPR by sex and area is presented in Figure 3.4. Overall male (LFPR 73.5%) LFPR was found to be higher than that of their female counterparts

(LFPR 69.1%), a similar pattern to the one observed in the LFS 2016. The rates were also higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas. Ten (10) regions show that males

have a higher LFPR compare to females except for Kavango East, Kavango West, Ohangwena and Omusati regions.

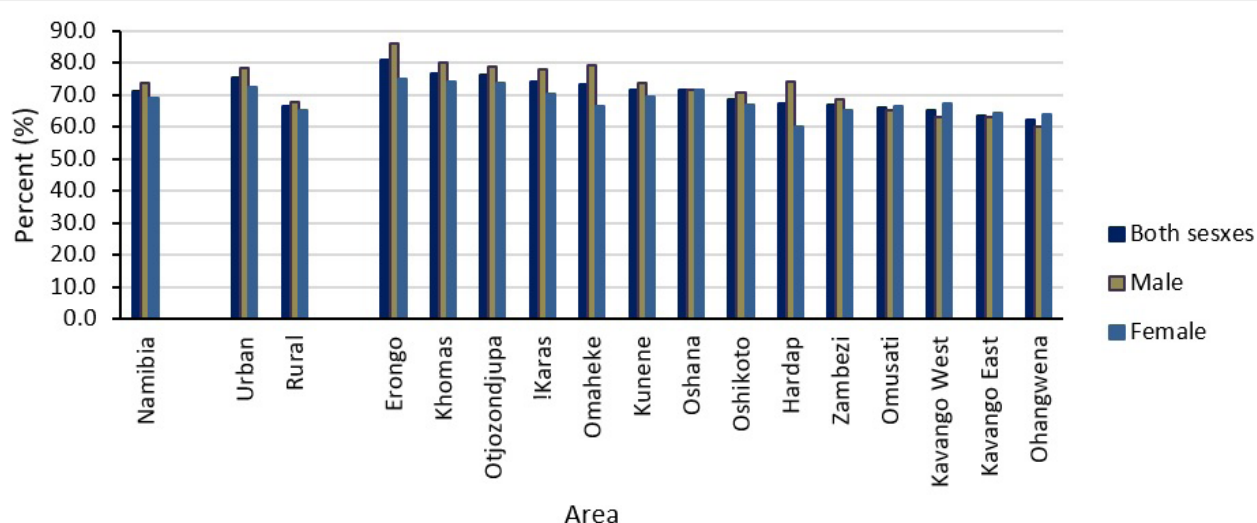


Figure 3.4: Labour force participation rate by sex and area

### 3.3 Economically Inactive Population

The economically inactive population is comprised of persons who were not in employment and not available to take up any form of employment due to various reasons, such as age limitation (too old); family or social commitments such as tending to the young, sickness and otherwise vulnerable; study; health; or inability due to physical or mental challenges;

and other guaranteed sources of income, for example, from investment, etc.

Throughout this section the inactive population was derived using the broad definition of unemployment.

Table 3.5 shows that females accounted for most of the total inactive population with 56.5 percent, a trend which is further consistently reflected across

the rural/urban divide as well as across the regions. Khomas region (16.3%) has the highest proportion of inactive population followed by Ohangwena (12.7%) and Omusati (12%), while Omaheke (2.7%) has the lowest followed by !Karas and Kunene at 3.7 percent and Okavango West (3.8%).

**Table 3.5: Inactive population by sex and area**

| Region       | Both sexes |      | Male    |      | Female  |      |
|--------------|------------|------|---------|------|---------|------|
|              | Number     | %    | Number  | %    | Number  | %    |
| Namibia      | 438,770    | 100  | 190,758 | 43.5 | 248,013 | 56.5 |
| Urban        | 201,700    | 46.0 | 83,903  | 41.6 | 117,797 | 58.4 |
| Rural        | 237,070    | 54.0 | 106,855 | 45.1 | 130,216 | 54.9 |
| !Karas       | 16051      | 3.7  | 6,872   | 42.8 | 9179    | 57.2 |
| Erongo       | 26567      | 6.1  | 10,519  | 39.6 | 16048   | 60.4 |
| Hardap       | 19409      | 4.4  | 7,887   | 40.6 | 11522   | 59.4 |
| Kavango East | 32592      | 7.4  | 14,604  | 44.8 | 17987   | 55.2 |
| Kavango West | 16728      | 3.8  | 7,858   | 47   | 8870    | 53   |
| Khomas       | 71472      | 16.3 | 29,928  | 41.9 | 41545   | 58.1 |
| Kunene       | 16248      | 3.7  | 7272    | 44.8 | 8976    | 55.2 |
| Ohangwena    | 55909      | 12.7 | 25484   | 45.6 | 30425   | 54.4 |
| Omaheke      | 12027      | 2.7  | 5001    | 41.6 | 7026    | 58.4 |
| Omusati      | 52664      | 12.0 | 22532   | 42.8 | 30132   | 57.2 |
| Oshana       | 36382      | 8.3  | 15650   | 43   | 20731   | 57   |
| Oshikoto     | 38835      | 8.9  | 17031   | 43.9 | 21804   | 56.1 |
| Otjozondjupa | 23195      | 5.3  | 10765   | 46.4 | 12431   | 53.6 |
| Zambezi      | 20693      | 4.7  | 9356    | 45.2 | 11336   | 54.8 |

The distribution of the economically inactive population by age group, sex and area is presented in Table 3.6.

The result shows that the youngest age group of 15 to 19 years accounts for the majority (42.6%) of the inactive population followed by age group 20-24 at 16.6 percent. However, the youth (aged 15 to 34 years) accounts for 68 percent of

the total inactive population. On the other hand, the age group 65 years and above, is the third largest group, accounting for 13.6 percent of the inactive population.

This is also expected as this is mostly persons in retirement. It's worthwhile to note that people in the age group 40-44 and 45-49 account for the least proportion of

inactive population at 2.5 and 2.4 percent respectively followed by the people in the age group 50-54 at 2.8 percent.

| Table 3.6: Inactive population by age group, sex and area |             |         |         |             |        |         |             |         |         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|
| Age group                                                 | Namibia     |         |         | Urban       |        |         | Rural       |         |         |
|                                                           | Both Sexes  | Male    | Female  | Both Sexes  | Male   | Female  | Both Sexes  | Male    | Female  |
| 15-19                                                     | 187,046     | 91,932  | 95,114  | 73,398      | 35,156 | 38,242  | 113,648     | 56,776  | 56,872  |
| 20-24                                                     | 72,666      | 35,197  | 37,469  | 34,601      | 15,242 | 19,359  | 38,065      | 19,955  | 18,110  |
| 25-29                                                     | 25,870      | 10,979  | 14,891  | 15,602      | 6,230  | 9,372   | 10,268      | 4,749   | 5,519   |
| 30-34                                                     | 12,840      | 4,710   | 8,130   | 8,935       | 3,206  | 5,729   | 3,905       | 1,504   | 2,401   |
| 35-39                                                     | 12,870      | 4,673   | 8,197   | 7,901       | 3,057  | 4,844   | 4,969       | 1,616   | 3,353   |
| 40-44                                                     | 10,802      | 3,485   | 7,317   | 6,098       | 1,879  | 4,219   | 4,704       | 1,606   | 3,098   |
| 45-49                                                     | 10,463      | 3,432   | 7,031   | 6,124       | 2,012  | 4,112   | 4,338       | 1,419   | 2,919   |
| 50-54                                                     | 13,174      | 3,900   | 9,274   | 6,397       | 1,730  | 4,668   | 6,777       | 2,171   | 4,606   |
| 55-59                                                     | 12,499      | 3,718   | 8,780   | 6,612       | 1,837  | 4,775   | 5,887       | 1,881   | 4,006   |
| 60-64                                                     | 20,953      | 7,747   | 13,206  | 11,932      | 4,453  | 7,479   | 9,021       | 3,294   | 5,727   |
| 65+                                                       | 59,587      | 20,984  | 38,604  | 24,099      | 9,100  | 14,999  | 35,488      | 11,883  | 23,605  |
| Namibia                                                   | 438,770     | 190,758 | 248,013 | 201,700     | 83,903 | 117,797 | 237,070     | 106,855 | 130,216 |
| Age group                                                 | Percentages |         |         | Percentages |        |         | Percentages |         |         |
| 15-19                                                     | 42.6        | 48.2    | 38.4    | 36.4        | 41.9   | 32.5    | 47.9        | 53.1    | 43.7    |
| 20-24                                                     | 16.6        | 18.5    | 15.1    | 17.2        | 18.2   | 16.4    | 16.1        | 18.7    | 13.9    |
| 25-29                                                     | 5.9         | 5.8     | 6       | 7.7         | 7.4    | 8       | 4.3         | 4.4     | 4.2     |
| 30-34                                                     | 2.9         | 2.5     | 3.3     | 4.4         | 3.8    | 4.9     | 1.6         | 1.4     | 1.8     |
| 35-39                                                     | 2.9         | 2.4     | 3.3     | 3.9         | 3.6    | 4.1     | 2.1         | 1.5     | 2.6     |
| 40-44                                                     | 2.5         | 1.8     | 3       | 3           | 2.2    | 3.6     | 2           | 1.5     | 2.4     |
| 45-49                                                     | 2.4         | 1.8     | 2.8     | 3           | 2.4    | 3.5     | 1.8         | 1.3     | 2.2     |
| 50-54                                                     | 3           | 2       | 3.7     | 3.2         | 2.1    | 4       | 2.9         | 2       | 3.5     |
| 55-59                                                     | 2.8         | 1.9     | 3.5     | 3.3         | 2.2    | 4.1     | 2.5         | 1.8     | 3.1     |
| 60-64                                                     | 4.8         | 4.1     | 5.3     | 5.9         | 5.3    | 6.3     | 3.8         | 3.1     | 4.4     |
| 65+                                                       | 13.6        | 11      | 15.6    | 11.9        | 10.8   | 12.7    | 15          | 11.1    | 18.1    |
| Namibia                                                   | 100         | 100     | 100     | 100         | 100    | 100     | 100         | 100     | 100     |

Table 3.7 presents the outcome of the main reasons why people were inactive. The result shows that over half (54.4%) of the inactive population were students, followed by Old age (16.0%), illness / disable (10.5%) and Homemakers (8.9%). Income recipient account for the least proportion of inactiveness at 0.4 percent, followed by Retired at 0.9 percent.



Table 3.7: Inactive population by sex, area and reason for inactivity

| Reason for inactivity | Total          |                |                | Urban          |               |                |                | Rural          |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                       | Total          | Male           | Female         | Total          | Male          | Female         | Total          | Male           | Female         |
| Student               | 238,481        | 117,989        | 120,492        | 106,053        | 49,523        | 56,530         | 132,428        | 68,467         | 63,962         |
| Old age               | 70,036         | 24,076         | 45,960         | 32,817         | 12,010        | 20,807         | 37,219         | 12,066         | 25,153         |
| Illness / disabled    | 46,061         | 22,496         | 23,565         | 18,390         | 8,560         | 9,830          | 27,670         | 13,936         | 13,735         |
| Homemaker             | 38,982         | 5,316          | 33,665         | 18,817         | 2,454         | 16,363         | 20,165         | 2,862          | 17,303         |
| No desire to work     | 27,001         | 14,662         | 12,340         | 14,308         | 7,860         | 6,449          | 12,693         | 6,802          | 5,891          |
| Pregnancy             | 6,315          | *              | 6,315          | 3,458          | *             | 3,458          | 2,857          | *              | 2,857          |
| Other, Specify        | 5,907          | 3,090          | 2,818          | 3,551          | 1,647         | 1,903          | 2,357          | 1,442          | 915            |
| Retired               | 4,107          | 1,787          | 2,320          | 3,018          | 957           | 2,061          | 1089           | 829            | 259            |
| Income recipient      | 1,701          | 1,163          | 538            | 1,174          | 777           | 398            | 527            | 386            | 141            |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>438,591</b> | <b>190,578</b> | <b>248,013</b> | <b>201,585</b> | <b>83,788</b> | <b>117,797</b> | <b>237,006</b> | <b>106,790</b> | <b>130,216</b> |

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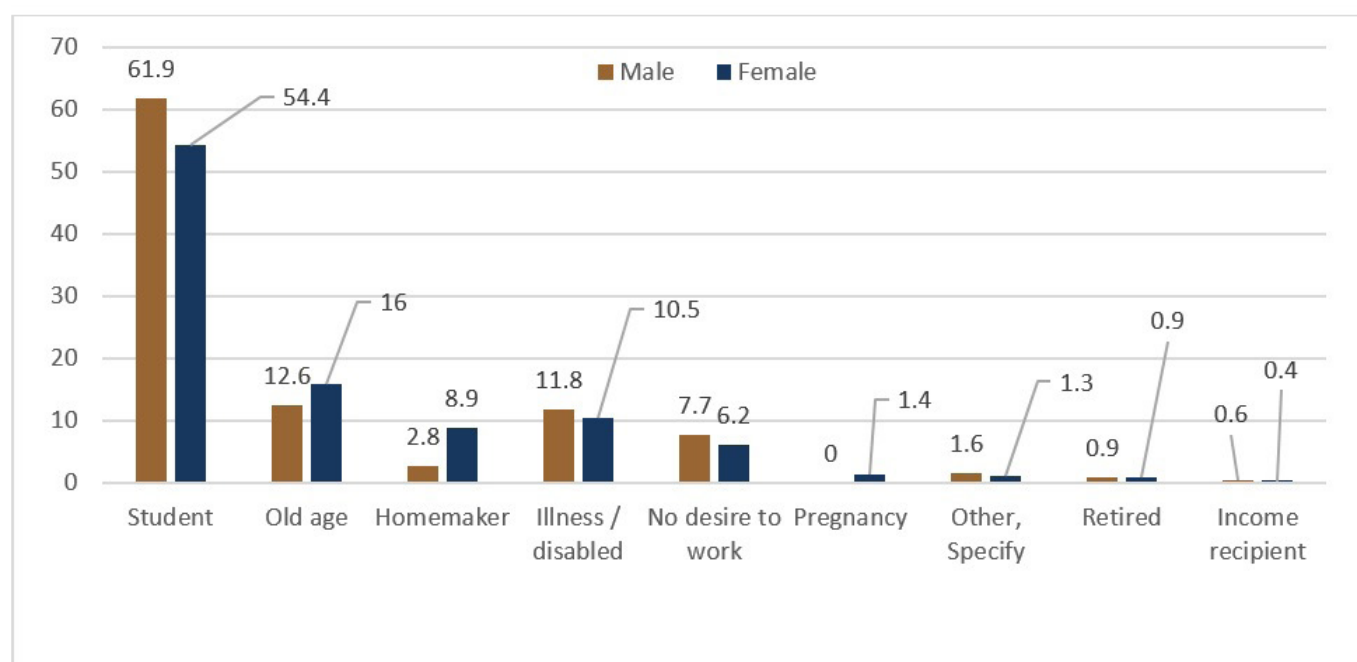


Figure 3.4: Labour force participation rate by sex and area

The results of Table 3.7 are further graphically presented in Figure 3.5. As observed earlier, the proportion of females who are inactive is higher than their male counterparts in the categories of old age, homemaker and pregnancy.

CHAPTER 4:  
EMPLOYMENT

This chapter describes the characteristics of the employed population such as level of education, employment sectors in which they are engaged, as well as average wages/salaries.

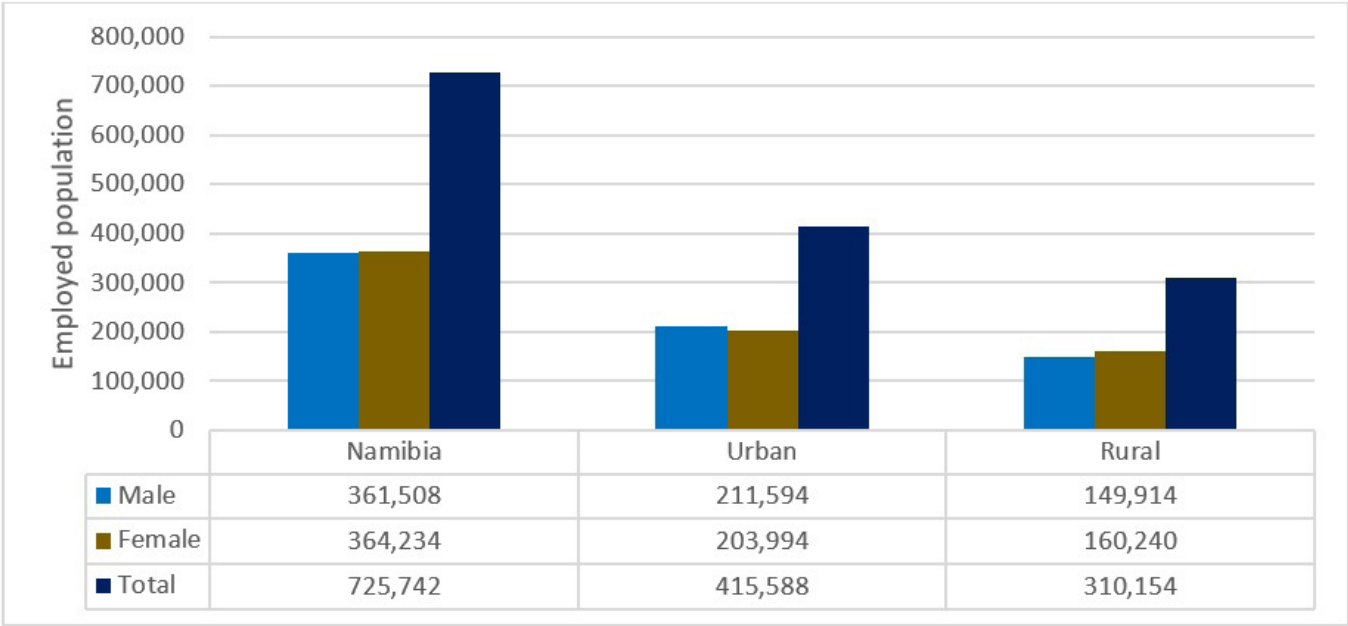


Figure 4.1: Distribution of employment by sex, urban and rural

4.1 Employment by sex, age and area

Figure 4.1 presents the distribution of employed persons by sex,

as well as by urban and rural areas. The results show that, the total number of the employed population in Namibia is 725,742 of whom 361,508 were males and 364,234 were females. It is worthwhile to note that more

males (50.9%) compare to females (49.1%) were employed in urban areas while more females (51.7%) were employed in rural areas.

| Table 4.1: Employed persons by sex and age group |            |      |         |      |         |      |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------|------|---------|------|---------|------|
| Age group                                        | Both Sexes |      | Male    |      | Female  |      |
|                                                  | Number     | %    | Number  | %    | Number  | %    |
| 15-19                                            | 15,706     | 2.2  | 9,288   | 2.6  | 6,418   | 1.8  |
| 20-24                                            | 71,073     | 9.8  | 38,059  | 10.5 | 33,013  | 9.1  |
| 25-29                                            | 110,841    | 15.3 | 57,513  | 15.9 | 53,328  | 14.6 |
| 30-34                                            | 113,234    | 15.6 | 56,763  | 15.7 | 56,471  | 15.5 |
| 35-39                                            | 100,692    | 13.9 | 50,461  | 14.0 | 50,231  | 13.8 |
| 40-44                                            | 85,896     | 11.8 | 42,600  | 11.8 | 43,297  | 11.9 |
| 45-49                                            | 69,621     | 9.6  | 33,729  | 9.3  | 35,892  | 9.9  |
| 50-54                                            | 54,781     | 7.5  | 26,546  | 7.3  | 28,235  | 7.8  |
| 55-59                                            | 40,992     | 5.6  | 18,199  | 5.0  | 22,793  | 6.3  |
| 60-64                                            | 21,846     | 3.0  | 9,902   | 2.7  | 11,944  | 3.3  |
| 65+                                              | 41,060     | 5.7  | 18,448  | 5.1  | 22,612  | 6.2  |
| Namibia                                          | 725,742    | 100  | 361,508 | 100  | 364,234 | 100  |

It is further noted that more males are employed in the younger ages (age 0-39) compared to females while more females are employed from older ages (age 45+)

#### 4.2 Education levels of the employed population

Table 4.2 provides information on the educational levels of the employed population. Persons who completed Junior and Senior

Secondary education in total makes up the largest proportion of the employed persons, accounting for 51.8 percent, followed by those with Primary education with 20.1 percent. Persons without formal education constitutes 11.8 percent

while those who completed tertiary education (Technical/Vocational Certificate/Diploma, University Certificate, Diploma or Degree, (Completed year 1 or 2 or 3)) together make up 14.6 percent of the total employed population.

| Table 4.2: Employed persons by sex and level of education |                     |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------|
| Highest education level completed                         | Employed population |      |
|                                                           | Number              | %    |
| None                                                      | 85,352              | 11.8 |
| Primary                                                   | 146,089             | 20.1 |
| Junior secondary                                          | 229,259             | 31.6 |
| Senior secondary                                          | 146,874             | 20.2 |
| Technical / Vocational Certificate/Diploma                | 16,292              | 2.2  |
| Completed year 1 or 2 or 3                                | 12,595              | 1.7  |
| University Certificate, Diploma or Degree                 | 59,328              | 8.2  |
| Postgraduate Certificate, Diploma or Degree               | 18,378              | 2.5  |
| Don't know                                                | 11,576              | 1.6  |
| Total                                                     | 725,742             | 100  |
| 65+                                                       | 41,060              | 5.7  |
| Namibia                                                   | 725,742             | 100  |

### 4.3 Employment to population ratio (EPR)

The employment-to-population ratio, also called employment absorption rate (shown in Table 4.3) is a useful indicator for examining the ability of persons with different categories to be employed or absorbed by employment, for example by levels of education. The employment-to-population ratio is calculated as the percentage of all persons in each category of interest that are employed.

For Namibia, 47.4 percent of the population aged 15 years and above is absorbed in employment, which is an increment of 1.6 percent from the 45.8 percent

reported in 2016. Males have a higher absorption rate of 49.6 percent compare to females (45.3%) which is further reflected across the urban/rural areas.

Generally, the employment absorption rate increases with higher level of education. For example, persons with Postgraduate qualification such as: Certificate, Diploma or Degree has the highest absorption rate of 83.8 percent, followed by those with a University Certificate, Diploma or Degree with (76.4%). Persons with the lowest absorption rate were those who are currently at University with 41.1 percent.

Furthermore, the difference in the EPR between persons in urban and

rural areas is notably large with the urban proportion at 50.2 percent while the rural areas lurking at 44.1 percent.

People with tertiary education are more employable in rural areas compare to urban areas. Women with primary education, no formal education and those who do not know their educational status are more employable in rural areas. When comparing the employment to population ratio (EPR) by educational qualification complete it is noted that employment absorption rate (EPR) increase with level of education completed.

**Table 4.3: Employment to population ratio (EPR), within each category of sex, area and level of completed education**

| Highest education level completed           | Employed population |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                             | Both sexes          | Male        | Female      | Both sexes  | Male        | Female      | Both sexes  | Male        | Female      |
| None                                        | 45.6                | 54.4        | 37.2        | 38.7        | 47.7        | 29.5        | 48.7        | 57.5        | 40.6        |
| Primary                                     | 42.2                | 43.3        | 41.1        | 44.0        | 48.7        | 38.9        | 41.2        | 40.1        | 42.3        |
| Junior secondary                            | 42.4                | 42.6        | 42.2        | 45.7        | 46.7        | 45.0        | 38.0        | 37.1        | 38.7        |
| Senior secondary                            | 53.5                | 56.4        | 50.9        | 55.4        | 58.9        | 52.2        | 48.1        | 49.1        | 47.3        |
| Technical / Vocational Certificate/Diploma  | 54.1                | 56.4        | 49.9        | 51.3        | 55.3        | 43.9        | 62.5        | 59.9        | 67.3        |
| Completed year 1or 2 or 3                   | 41.1                | 49.3        | 36.1        | 39.6        | 46.4        | 35.7        | 49.4        | 61.6        | 38.6        |
| University Certificate, Diploma or Degree   | 76.4                | 78.3        | 75.0        | 74.5        | 76.4        | 73.0        | 84.0        | 87.3        | 82.1        |
| Postgraduate Certificate, Diploma or Degree | 83.8                | 84.3        | 83.4        | 82.3        | 81.4        | 83.1        | 88.7        | 93.3        | 84.1        |
| Don't know                                  | 51.3                | 52.2        | 50.3        | 45.9        | 48.0        | 42.9        | 58.2        | 58.2        | 58.3        |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>47.4</b>         | <b>49.6</b> | <b>45.3</b> | <b>50.2</b> | <b>53.2</b> | <b>47.5</b> | <b>44.1</b> | <b>45.3</b> | <b>42.9</b> |

Table 4.4 presents similar trends observed in table 4.3 but at regional levels. The result showed that overall Erongo region reported the highest EPR of 56.9 percent while Kavango East reported the lowest EPR of 32.9 percent.

| Table 4.4: Employment to population ratio (EPR) by sex and area |            |             |      |          |             |      |          |             |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|------|----------|-------------|------|----------|-------------|------|
| Region                                                          | Both sexes |             |      | Male     |             |      | Female   |             |      |
|                                                                 | Employed   | Working Age | EPR% | Employed | Working Age | EPR% | Employed | Working Age | EPR% |
| Namibia                                                         | 725,742    | 1,531,967   | 47.4 | 361,508  | 728,717     | 49.6 | 364,234  | 803,250     | 45.3 |
| Urban                                                           | 415,588    | 827,889     | 50.2 | 211,594  | 397,991     | 53.2 | 203,994  | 429,898     | 47.5 |
| Rural                                                           | 310,154    | 704,078     | 44.1 | 149,914  | 330,726     | 45.3 | 160,240  | 373,352     | 42.9 |
| !Karas                                                          | 30,899     | 61,636      | 50.1 | 16,947   | 30,972      | 54.7 | 13,952   | 30,664      | 45.5 |
| Erongo                                                          | 79,326     | 139,472     | 56.9 | 46,001   | 75,018      | 61.3 | 33,325   | 64,454      | 51.7 |
| Hardap                                                          | 26,708     | 60,451      | 44.2 | 16,007   | 31,244      | 51.2 | 10,701   | 29,207      | 36.6 |
| Kavango East                                                    | 29,418     | 89,391      | 32.9 | 12,964   | 39,312      | 33.0 | 16,454   | 50,079      | 32.9 |
| Kavango West                                                    | 21,064     | 48,187      | 43.7 | 9,074    | 21,200      | 42.8 | 11,990   | 26,987      | 44.4 |
| Khomas                                                          | 165,384    | 314,224     | 52.6 | 85,913   | 154,403     | 55.6 | 79,471   | 159,821     | 49.7 |
| Kunene                                                          | 24,846     | 59,474      | 41.8 | 13,654   | 30,133      | 45.3 | 11,193   | 29,341      | 38.1 |
| Ohangwena                                                       | 61,303     | 147,906     | 41.4 | 25,375   | 63,770      | 39.8 | 35,928   | 84,136      | 42.7 |
| Omaheke                                                         | 20,575     | 45,756      | 45.0 | 13,611   | 24,686      | 55.1 | 6,964    | 21,070      | 33.1 |
| Omusati                                                         | 77,375     | 154,450     | 50.1 | 30,445   | 64,560      | 47.2 | 46,930   | 89,890      | 52.2 |
| Oshana                                                          | 61,223     | 127,139     | 48.2 | 25,214   | 54,834      | 46.0 | 36,009   | 72,305      | 49.8 |
| Oshikoto                                                        | 54,078     | 123,575     | 43.8 | 25,622   | 57,800      | 44.3 | 28,457   | 65,775      | 43.3 |
| Otjozondjupa                                                    | 47,616     | 97,873      | 48.7 | 27,400   | 50,789      | 53.9 | 20,216   | 47,084      | 42.9 |
| Zambezi                                                         | 25,925     | 62,433      | 41.5 | 13,280   | 29,996      | 44.3 | 12,645   | 32,437      | 39.0 |

Similarly, with respect to sex aggregation, male EPR continue to outnumber their female's counterpart in all regions except in Kavango West, Ohangwena, Oshana and Omusati regions. In

Omaheke males are 22 percent more likely to be employed compare to females followed by Hardap (14.6%) and Otjozondjupa (11%) while Oshikoto is only 1 percent more likely, this imply

that Oshikoto offer a more equal opportunity for male and female to be employed compare to other regions.

Unemployment by educational level

education and sex. The result showed that persons with post-school education (such as Currently at university, university certificate, diploma or degree, post-graduate (Certificate, diploma or degree) constitute a combined unemployed rate of 51.6 percent. The highest unemployment rates were found amongst persons with junior secondary (40.1%) and primary (34%) education with a combined unemployment rate of 74.7 percent. Furthermore, the

| Table 4.5: Employed persons by occupation and sex |            |      |         |      |         |      |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------|------|---------|------|---------|------|
| Occupation                                        | Both Sexes |      | Male    |      | Female  |      |
|                                                   | Number     | %    | Number  | %    | Number  | %    |
| Elementary occupation                             | 211,246    | 29.1 | 95,126  | 26.3 | 116,120 | 31.9 |
| Skilled agriculture                               | 110,664    | 15.2 | 49,075  | 13.6 | 61,589  | 16.9 |
| Service workers & Sales                           | 105,774    | 14.6 | 41,415  | 11.5 | 64,358  | 17.7 |
| Craft & related trade                             | 90,432     | 12.5 | 66,277  | 18.3 | 24,155  | 6.6  |
| Professionals                                     | 53,032     | 7.3  | 22,256  | 6.2  | 30,775  | 8.4  |
| Clerks                                            | 39,130     | 5.4  | 9,756   | 2.7  | 29,375  | 8.1  |
| Technicians & associate professionals             | 38,002     | 5.2  | 17,538  | 4.9  | 20,464  | 5.6  |
| Plant and machine operators                       | 33,544     | 4.6  | 32,134  | 8.9  | 1,410   | 0.4  |
| Not Stated                                        | 22,617     | 3.1  | 14,362  | 4    | 8,255   | 2.3  |
| Legislators & managers                            | 11,825     | 1.6  | 6,588   | 1.8  | 5,237   | 1.4  |
| Armed forces                                      | 9,475      | 1.3  | 6,980   | 1.9  | 2,495   | 0.7  |
| Namibia                                           | 725,742    | 100  | 361,508 | 100  | 364,234 | 100  |

Table 4.6 depict the employed person per key industry. In terms of the economic sector, the Agriculture, forestry and fishing sector remains the highest employment sector in Namibia accounting for 23.0 percent of the employed persons. This is an increase of about 3.0 percent when compared to the 20.1 percent recorded in the 2016 LFS.

The lowest employment sectors were the Real estate activities

and Activities of extraterritorial organizations each accounting for 0.1 percent of the employed persons in Namibia. There were some significant differences in the figures of the employment sectors by sex. Males dominated in the following sectors; Agriculture, forestry and fishing (24.9% to 21.2%), Construction and Wholesale & retail trade both with (11.6% to 0.9% and 10.7%), transportation and storage (6.1% to 0.8%), mining and quarrying (2.8%

to 0.6%) to mention a few. On the other hand, females were more dominant in the Accommodation & food services activities (17.5% to 5.3%), Activities of households as employers (14.2% to 5.7%), education (9% to 4%) and Financial and insurance activities (2.5% to 1.3%), to mention a few.



| Table 4.6: Employed persons by industry and sex  |            |      |         |      |         |      |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------|------|---------|------|---------|------|
| Industry                                         | Both Sexes |      | Male    |      | Female  |      |
|                                                  | Number     | %    | Number  | %    | Number  | %    |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing                | 167,242    | 23.0 | 90,076  | 24.9 | 77,166  | 21.2 |
| Mining and quarrying                             | 12,087     | 1.7  | 9,943   | 2.8  | 2,144   | 0.6  |
| Manufacturing                                    | 45,057     | 6.2  | 28,209  | 7.8  | 16,848  | 4.6  |
| Electricity, gas, steam and air condition        | 3,278      | 0.5  | 2,517   | 0.7  | 760     | 0.2  |
| Water supply; sewerage, waste management         | 4,095      | 0.6  | 2,898   | 0.8  | 1,197   | 0.3  |
| Construction                                     | 45,057     | 6.2  | 41,759  | 11.6 | 3,298   | 0.9  |
| Wholesale and retail trade                       | 80,852     | 11.1 | 41,882  | 11.6 | 38,969  | 10.7 |
| Transportation and storage                       | 24,710     | 3.4  | 21,976  | 6.1  | 2,735   | 0.8  |
| Accommodation and food service activities        | 83,056     | 11.4 | 19,156  | 5.3  | 63,900  | 17.5 |
| Information and communication                    | 7,141      | 1.0  | 5,583   | 1.5  | 1,558   | 0.4  |
| Financial and insurance activities               | 13,861     | 1.9  | 4,688   | 1.3  | 9,173   | 2.5  |
| Real estate activities                           | 1,050      | 0.1  | 403     | 0.1  | 647     | 0.2  |
| Professional, scientific and technical           | 8,648      | 1.2  | 4,195   | 1.2  | 4,453   | 1.2  |
| Administrative and support service activities    | 29,951     | 4.1  | 16,987  | 4.7  | 12,964  | 3.6  |
| Public administration and defence; communication | 34,174     | 4.7  | 21,213  | 5.9  | 12,960  | 3.6  |
| Education                                        | 46,923     | 6.5  | 14,302  | 4.0  | 32,621  | 9.0  |
| Human health and social work activities          | 19,527     | 2.7  | 5,484   | 1.5  | 14,043  | 3.9  |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation               | 4,910      | 0.7  | 1,263   | 0.3  | 3,648   | 1.0  |
| Other service activities                         | 20,865     | 2.9  | 7,886   | 2.2  | 12,979  | 3.6  |
| Activities of households as employers;           | 72,185     | 9.9  | 20,441  | 5.7  | 51,744  | 14.2 |
| Activities of extraterritorial organisations     | 1,035      | 0.1  | 627     | 0.2  | 408     | 0.1  |
| Not elsewhere classified                         | 37         | 0.0  | 17      | 0.0  | 19      | 0.0  |
| Namibia                                          | 725,742    | 100  | 361,508 | 100  | 364,234 | 100  |

#### 4.5 Status in Employment

The survey questionnaire distinguishes the own account, self-employed and unpaid family workers between those who are working in subsistence agriculture and those who are working in other employment. Table 4.7 indicate that 55.4 percent of all employed persons are employed as Other employee followed by, Other own account worker (without paid employees) (13.9%) and then Subsistence/communal

farmer (without paid employees) (13%). The lowest proportion of all employed persons are employed as Unpaid family worker (other) and Unpaid family worker (subsistence/communal) both at 2.3 percent followed by Subsistence/communal farmer (with paid employees) (2.5%).

With respect to sex disaggregation, the result shows that more males were employed in Other Employee category (62.6%), Other employer (5%) and Subsistence/communal farmer (with paid employees) (2.9%). While, a great proportion

of females were employed in all the other professions such as Other own account worker (without paid employees) (16.9%), Subsistence/communal farmer (without paid employees) (16.1%) and Domestic worker (8.6%) respectively.

| Table 4.7: Employed persons by sex and status in employment |                |            |                |            |                |            |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|--|
| Industry                                                    | Both Sexes     |            | Male           |            | Female         |            |  |
|                                                             | Number         | %          | Number         | %          | Number         | %          |  |
| Subsistence/ communal farmer (with paid employees)          | 18,462         | 2.5        | 10,560         | 2.9        | 7,902          | 2.2        |  |
| Subsistence/ communal farmer (without paid employees)       | 94,001         | 13.0       | 35,383         | 9.8        | 58,618         | 16.1       |  |
| Other employer                                              | 27,225         | 3.8        | 17,977         | 5.0        | 9,248          | 2.5        |  |
| Other own account worker (without paid employees)           | 100,960        | 13.9       | 39,411         | 10.9       | 61,550         | 16.9       |  |
| Domestic worker                                             | 49,731         | 6.9        | 18,331         | 5.1        | 31,400         | 8.6        |  |
| Other employee                                              | 401,970        | 55.4       | 226,349        | 62.6       | 175,621        | 48.2       |  |
| Unpaid family worker (subsistence/ communal)                | 16,539         | 2.3        | 7,085          | 2.0        | 9,454          | 2.6        |  |
| Unpaid family worker (other)                                | 16,854         | 2.3        | 6,412          | 1.8        | 10,442         | 2.9        |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                                | <b>725,742</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>361,508</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>364,234</b> | <b>100</b> |  |

Table 4.8 shows the employed persons by sector of economic activity and status in employment. There were 401,970 persons who were classified as employees, of which the largest number were in Wholesale & retail trade (53,779 persons), Agriculture, forestry and fishing (46,752 persons) and education (42,987 persons) respectively. About 194,961 of the total employed persons were own-account workers. The own-account workers were more concentrated in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry.

Table 4.8: Employed persons by sector of economic activity and status in employment

| Industry                                     | Number    |           |                     |                             |                                    |         | Percentages |           |           |                     |                             |                                    |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
|                                              | Employees | Employers | Own account workers | Contributing family workers | Workers not classifiable by status | Total   | Percentage  | Employees | Employers | Own account workers | Contributing family workers | Workers not classifiable by status |
| Agriculture, forestry & fishing              | 46,751    | 13,667    | 87,091              | 11,937                      | 7,796                              | 167,242 | 23.0        | 11.6      | 29.9      | 44.7                | 35.7                        | 15.7                               |
| Accommodation & food services activities     | 31,305    | 5,743     | 38,041              | 4,671                       | 3,296                              | 83,056  | 11.4        | 7.8       | 12.6      | 19.5                | 14.0                        | 6.6                                |
| Wholesale and retail trade                   | 53,779    | 5,079     | 19,142              | 2,518                       | 334                                | 80,852  | 11.1        | 13.4      | 11.1      | 9.8                 | 7.5                         | 0.7                                |
| Private households                           | 21,640    | 2,405     | 11,572              | 3,080                       | 33,487                             | 72,184  | 9.9         | 5.4       | 5.3       | 5.9                 | 9.2                         | 67.3                               |
| Education                                    | 42,987    | 1,173     | 1,392               | 1,271                       | 99                                 | 46,922  | 6.5         | 10.7      | 2.6       | 0.7                 | 3.8                         | 0.2                                |
| Construction                                 | 33,707    | 4,031     | 6,482               | 569                         | 269                                | 45,058  | 6.2         | 8.4       | 8.8       | 3.3                 | 1.7                         | 0.5                                |
| Manufacturing                                | 27,757    | 4,623     | 11,049              | 1,408                       | 220                                | 45,057  | 6.2         | 6.9       | 10.1      | 5.7                 | 4.2                         | 0.4                                |
| Public administration, defence, compulsory   | 32,386    | 133       | 122                 | 1,532                       | 0                                  | 34,173  | 4.7         | 8.1       | 0.3       | 0.1                 | 4.6                         | 0.0                                |
| Administrative & support services activities | 23,264    | 2,098     | 1,031               | 2,795                       | 762                                | 29,950  | 4.1         | 5.8       | 4.6       | 0.5                 | 8.4                         | 1.5                                |
| Transportation and storage                   | 15,446    | 1,657     | 5,523               | 622                         | 1,463                              | 24,711  | 3.4         | 3.8       | 3.6       | 2.8                 | 1.9                         | 2.9                                |
| Other service activities                     | 9,429     | 1,419     | 8,467               | 630                         | 920                                | 20,865  | 2.9         | 2.3       | 3.1       | 4.3                 | 1.9                         | 1.9                                |
| Human health and social work activities      | 16,920    | 391       | 391                 | 1,085                       | 741                                | 19,528  | 2.7         | 4.2       | 0.9       | 0.2                 | 3.2                         | 1.5                                |
| Financial and insurance activities           | 12,495    | 817       | 522                 | 8                           | 18                                 | 13,860  | 1.9         | 3.1       | 1.8       | 0.3                 | 0.0                         | 0.0                                |
| Mining and quarrying                         | 10,868    | 348       | 202                 | 572                         | 97                                 | 12,087  | 1.7         | 2.7       | 0.8       | 0.1                 | 1.7                         | 0.2                                |
| Professional, scientific & technical         | 7,000     | 357       | 842                 | 451                         | 0                                  | 8,650   | 1.2         | 1.7       | 0.8       | 0.4                 | 1.3                         | 0.0                                |
| Information & communication                  | 6,119     | 296       | 538                 | 58                          | 130                                | 7,141   | 1.0         | 1.5       | 0.6       | 0.3                 | 0.2                         | 0.3                                |

|                                                      |         |        |         |        |        |         |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Arts, entertainment & recreation                     | 2,111   | 773    | 1,743   | 188    | 95     | 4,910   | 0.7 | 0.5 | 1.7 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| Water supply; sewerages                              | 3,784   | 150    | 161     | 0      | 0      | 4,095   | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Electricity, gas & related industries                | 2,810   | 314    | 154     | 0      | 0      | 3,278   | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Real estate activities                               | 385     | 195    | 471     | 0      | 0      | 1,051   | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Activities of extraterritorial organization & bodies | 990     | 18     | 25      | 0      | 2      | 1,035   | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Not elsewhere classified                             | 37      | 0      | 0       | 0      | 0      | 37      | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Namibia                                              | 401,970 | 45,687 | 194,961 | 33,395 | 49,729 | 725,742 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

#### 4.6 Place (institution) of work of employees

The distribution of employees by sex and institution in which they work is presented in table 4.9. Private companies, enterprises and cooperatives are the dominant places of work accounting for 48.8 percent of the employees. This is followed by the private households/individual with 24.5 percent of employees. Government (including local authorities) and State-owned enterprise/Parastatal

together accounts for 26.1 percent of all employment institutions second from private companies, enterprises and cooperatives. In rural areas, private households/individual is the biggest recruiter (47.7 percent) compare to any other institution followed by Private companies, enterprises and cooperatives, while in urban areas is Private companies, enterprises and cooperatives is the biggest (57.9 percent) recruiter followed by Government (including local authorities). Comparing sex, shows that Private companies,

enterprises and cooperatives are biggest recruiter for both men and women at 52.3 and 44.5 percent respectively, followed by private households/individual at 23.3 and 26 percent respectively. There are more female employees in both urban and rural areas working in government than male employees.

Table 4.9: Employees by sex, areas and place of work

[illegible]

#### 4.7 Conditions of work

In the case of paid employees, additional information was collected about their conditions of work. Paid employees were asked whether they were employed based on a written or oral contract. Employees were also asked whether the contracts or agreements were of limited or unlimited time duration, as well as whether they were entitled to paid

annual and sick leave.

Table 4.10 shows that the majority of paid employees (53.8%) were on permanent contract, followed by those with unspecified duration employment contracts (32.7%) and those with limited duration employment contract (13.5%). Furthermore, the result indicates that Parastatal account for 47 percent of employees whose contracts are permanent, followed by Private enterprise

(32.7 %) and Private Household and Government 10% %). In contrast, private households account for larger proportion (49.3%) of employees with unspecified duration employment contracts, followed by State-owned enterprises/ Parastatal who accounts for 46.5 percent of the employees. State-owned enterprises/ Parastatal account for the biggest paid employees (61 %) with contract with limited duration, followed by private

**Table 4.10: Type of contract held by paid employees, by institution in which they work**

| Entity type                                   | Limited duration | %    | Permanent | %    | Unspecified duration | %    | Total   |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------|------|-----------|------|----------------------|------|---------|
| Private companies, enterprise or cooperatives | 5,252            | 8.6  | 79,401    | 32.7 | 2,078                | 1.4  | 86,731  |
| The Government (Including local authorities)  | 4,706            | 7.7  | 24,284    | 10.0 | 2,041                | 1.4  | 31,031  |
| State-owned enterprises/ Parastatal           | 37,283           | 61.0 | 114,285   | 47.0 | 68,667               | 46.5 | 220,234 |
| Private households/ Individual                | 13,523           | 22.1 | 24,332    | 10.0 | 72,690               | 49.3 | 110,545 |
| Don't know                                    | 395              | 0.6  | 723       | 0.3  | 2,040                | 1.4  | 3,160   |
| Total                                         | 61,161           | 100. | 243,025   | 100. | 147,515              | 100. | 451,701 |

households (22.1 %).

With respect to employment industry the percentage of paid employees in each industry receiving paid leave and those receiving paid sick leave by sex are presented in table 4.11 and 4.12. From the two

tables, it can be observed that 39.3 percent of the paid employees reported that they benefit from annual paid leave while 36.9 percent reported that they benefit from sick leave respectively.

**Table 4.11: Percentage of paid employees in each industry receiving paid leave**

| Industry                                                   | Employees with paid leave |         |         | Total employed | % employees with paid leave |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|-----------------------------|------|--------|
|                                                            | Both sexes                | Male    | Female  |                | Both sexes                  | Male | Female |
| Agriculture, forestry & fishing                            | 27,865                    | 19,773  | 8,092   | 167,242        | 16.7                        | 11.8 | 4.8    |
| Mining and quarrying                                       | 9,034                     | 7,485   | 1,550   | 12,087         | 74.7                        | 61.9 | 12.8   |
| Manufacturing                                              | 18,942                    | 12,511  | 6,431   | 45,057         | 42.0                        | 27.8 | 14.3   |
| Electricity & related industries                           | 2,468                     | 1,794   | 674     | 3,278          | 75.3                        | 54.7 | 20.6   |
| Water supply & related industries                          | 2,906                     | 2,093   | 813     | 4,095          | 71.0                        | 51.1 | 19.8   |
| Construction                                               | 11,841                    | 10,272  | 1,569   | 45,057         | 26.3                        | 22.8 | 3.5    |
| Wholesale and retail trade                                 | 34,569                    | 19,206  | 15,362  | 80,852         | 42.8                        | 23.8 | 19.0   |
| Transportation and storage                                 | 11,224                    | 8,837   | 2,387   | 24,710         | 45.4                        | 35.8 | 9.7    |
| Accommodation and food service activities                  | 18,719                    | 6,369   | 12,350  | 83,056         | 22.5                        | 7.7  | 14.9   |
| Information and communication                              | 5,324                     | 4,015   | 1,309   | 7,141          | 74.6                        | 56.2 | 18.3   |
| Financial and insurance activities                         | 10,403                    | 3,500   | 6,903   | 13,861         | 75.1                        | 25.3 | 49.8   |
| Real estate activities                                     | 156                       | 11      | 145     | 1,050          | 14.9                        | 1.0  | 13.8   |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities          | 6,163                     | 2,440   | 3,723   | 8,648          | 71.3                        | 28.2 | 43.0   |
| Administrative and support service activities              | 17,671                    | 10,310  | 7,361   | 29,951         | 59.0                        | 34.4 | 24.6   |
| Public administration, defence, compulsory social security | 29,755                    | 18,726  | 11,029  | 34,174         | 87.1                        | 54.8 | 32.3   |
| Education                                                  | 36,377                    | 12,068  | 24,309  | 46,923         | 77.5                        | 25.7 | 51.8   |
| Human health and social work activities                    | 15,734                    | 4,220   | 11,514  | 19,527         | 80.6                        | 21.6 | 59.00  |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation                         | 1,439                     | 437     | 1,002   | 4,910          | 29.3                        | 8.9  | 20.4   |
| Other service activities                                   | 5,471                     | 2,444   | 3,027   | 20,865         | 26.2                        | 11.7 | 14.5   |
| Private households                                         | 18,306                    | 3,972   | 14,334  | 72,185         | 25.4                        | 5.5  | 19.9   |
| Extraterritorial organization & bodies                     | 689                       | 462     | 227     | 1,035          | 66.5                        | 44.6 | 21.9   |
| Not recorded                                               | 19                        | -       | 19      | 37             | 53.1                        | 0.0  | 53.1   |
| Namibia                                                    | 285,077                   | 150,944 | 134,133 | 725,742        | 39.3                        | 20.8 | 18.5   |
|                                                            |                           |         |         |                |                             |      |        |



**Table 4.12: Percentage of paid employees in each industry receiving paid sick leave by sex**

| Industry                                                   | Employees with paid leave |         |         | Total employed | % employees with paid leave |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|-----------------------------|------|--------|
|                                                            | Both sexes                | Male    | Female  |                | Both sexes                  | Male | Female |
| Agriculture, forestry & fishing                            | 23,665                    | 16,100  | 7,565   | 167,242        | 14.2                        | 9.6  | 4.5    |
| Mining and quarrying                                       | 8,931                     | 7,478   | 1,453   | 12,087         | 73.9                        | 61.9 | 12.0   |
| Manufacturing                                              | 18,325                    | 12,128  | 6,197   | 45,057         | 40.7                        | 26.9 | 13.8   |
| Electricity & related industries                           | 2,449                     | 1,775   | 674     | 3,278          | 74.7                        | 54.2 | 20.6   |
| Water supply & related industries                          | 2,853                     | 2,053   | 800     | 4,095          | 69.7                        | 50.1 | 19.5   |
| Construction                                               | 10,924                    | 9,355   | 1,569   | 45,057         | 24.2                        | 20.8 | 3.5    |
| Wholesale and retail trade                                 | 32,296                    | 17,354  | 14,942  | 80,852         | 39.9                        | 21.5 | 18.5   |
| Transportation and storage                                 | 10,679                    | 8,397   | 2,282   | 24,710         | 43.2                        | 34.0 | 9.2    |
| Accommodation and food service activities                  | 17,468                    | 6,085   | 11,384  | 83,056         | 21.0                        | 7.3  | 13.7   |
| Information and communication                              | 5,109                     | 3,848   | 1,261   | 7,141          | 71.5                        | 53.9 | 17.7   |
| Financial and insurance activities                         | 10,331                    | 3,500   | 6,831   | 13,861         | 74.5                        | 25.3 | 49.3   |
| Real estate activities                                     | 156                       | 11      | 145     | 1,050          | 14.9                        | 1.0  | 13.8   |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities          | 6,127                     | 2,440   | 3,687   | 8,648          | 70.8                        | 28.2 | 42.6   |
| Administrative and support service activities              | 16,958                    | 9,821   | 7,137   | 29,951         | 56.6                        | 32.8 | 23.8   |
| Public administration, defence, compulsory social security | 29,297                    | 18,353  | 10,944  | 34,174         | 85.7                        | 53.7 | 32.0   |
| Education                                                  | 35,542                    | 11,786  | 23,757  | 46,923         | 75.7                        | 25.1 | 50.6   |
| Human health and social work activities                    | 15,377                    | 4,212   | 11,164  | 19,527         | 78.7                        | 21.6 | 57.2   |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation                         | 1,405                     | 421     | 984     | 4,910          | 28.6                        | 8.6  | 20.0   |
| Other service activities                                   | 5,339                     | 2,358   | 2,981   | 20,865         | 25.6                        | 11.3 | 14.3   |
| Private households                                         | 13,571                    | 2,570   | 11,001  | 72,185         | 18.8                        | 3.6  | 15.2   |
| Extraterritorial organization & bodies                     | 689                       | 462     | 227     | 1,035          | 66.5                        | 44.6 | 21.9   |
| Not recorded                                               | 19                        | 0       | 19      | 37             | 53.1                        | 0.0  | 53.1   |
| Namibia                                                    | 267,511                   | 140,507 | 127,005 | 725,742        | 36.9                        | 19.4 | 17.5   |

#### 4.8 Time-related underemployment

Time-related underemployment rate is defined as the percentage of employed persons who worked less than a specified threshold of hours during the reference period and were willing and available to work more hours than those worked in their job(s). It signals inadequate employment and complements other indicators of labour slack and labour underutilisation, such as the unemployment rate and discouraged workers.

For the purposes of this report, 35 hours per week is used as the cut off period. The calculation is done on the basis of usual hours worked per week.

Table 4.13 shows the number of employed persons who usually work fewer than 35 hours per week and are available and is expressed as a percentage of all employed persons i.e. the underemployment rate. The overall time-related underemployment rate is 4.9 percent. Compared to the 2016 LFS, the rate has decreased by 2.9 percentage point from 7.8 percent reported in 2016.

The rate is higher for females at 5.7 percent, than for males at 4.2 percent. It is also noted that Other own account worker (without paid employees) contributed the biggest to under-employment (10.4%) followed by unpaid family worker for both subsistence/communal and other both at 8.0 percent. For men unpaid family worker (subsistence/communal) is the most under-employed (11.9%) and for women other own account worker (without paid workers) are the most under-employed at 11.7 percent.

**Table 4.13: Time-related underemployment rate by status in employment and sex**

| Status in employment                               | Both sexes     |                |            | Male           |                |            | Female         |                |            |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|------------|----------------|----------------|------------|
|                                                    | Under employed | Employed       | %          | Under employed | Employed       | %          | Under employed | Employed       | %          |
| Subsistence/communal farmer with paid employees    | 1,029          | 18,462         | 5.6        | 869            | 10,560         | 8.2        | 161            | 7,902          | 2.0        |
| Subsistence/communal farmer without paid employees | 6,394          | 94,001         | 6.8        | 2,699          | 35,383         | 7.6        | 3,695          | 58,618         | 6.3        |
| Other employer                                     | 793            | 27,225         | 2.9        | 375            | 17,977         | 2.1        | 418            | 9,248          | 4.5        |
| Other own account worker (without paid employees)  | 10,543         | 100,960        | 10.4       | 3,337          | 39,411         | 8.5        | 7,206          | 61,550         | 11.7       |
| Domestic worker                                    | 3,723          | 49,731         | 7.5        | 986            | 18,331         | 5.4        | 2,737          | 31,400         | 8.7        |
| Other employees                                    | 10,702         | 401,970        | 2.7        | 5,628          | 226,349        | 2.5        | 5,074          | 175,621        | 2.9        |
| Unpaid family worker (subsistence/communal)        | 1,321          | 16,539         | 8.0        | 840            | 7,085          | 11.9       | 481            | 9,454          | 5.1        |
| Unpaid family worker (other)                       | 1,353          | 16,854         | 8.0        | 301            | 6,412          | 4.7        | 1,052          | 10,442         | 10.1       |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>35,858</b>  | <b>725,742</b> | <b>4.9</b> | <b>15,034</b>  | <b>361,508</b> | <b>4.2</b> | <b>20,824</b>  | <b>364,234</b> | <b>5.7</b> |

#### 4.9 Wages and salaries for employees

For the purpose of the LFS, data on wages and salaries was collected only in respect of paid employees. The question asked for the gross income to be specified, i.e. before any deductions. Furthermore, information on wages and salaries

was only asked in the case of the main job.

Table 4.14 presents a summary information on the monthly wages received by paid employees by industry and sex. At national level the average wage is N\$ 7,935 per month, an increase of N\$1,176 since 2016 when the average monthly wage was reported to

be N\$6,759. The average monthly wage was a bit higher for males (N\$8,052) than females (N\$7,789). Across industries the highest average wage is N\$20,459 per month which is earned by persons in the Financial and insurance industry, while the lowest is N\$1,387 per month earned by persons employed in the Private

**Table 4.14: Mean wages (NAD) by industry and sex**

| Industry                                                   | Average monthly wage for employees (N\$) |        |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------|---------|
|                                                            | Both sexes                               | Males  | Females |
| Agriculture, forestry & fishing                            | 3,393                                    | 2,700  | 5,768   |
| Mining and quarrying                                       | 17,963                                   | 18,315 | 15,936  |
| Manufacturing                                              | 5,749                                    | 6,045  | 5,081   |
| Electricity & related industries                           | 17,795                                   | 14,529 | 26,234  |
| Water supply & related industries                          | 11,512                                   | 11,711 | 10,996  |
| Construction                                               | 5,441                                    | 5,423  | 5,623   |
| Wholesale and retail trade                                 | 4,019                                    | 4,623  | 3,338   |
| Transportation and storage                                 | 7,957                                    | 6,697  | 14,467  |
| Accommodation and food service activities                  | 2,819                                    | 4,810  | 2,143   |
| Information and communication                              | 17,139                                   | 17,192 | 16,967  |
| Financial and insurance activities                         | 20,459                                   | 28,215 | 16,296  |
| Real estate activities                                     | 3,395                                    | 5,753  | 1,396   |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities          | 14,965                                   | 13,895 | 15,945  |
| Administrative and support service activities              | 4,744                                    | 4,911  | 4,520   |
| Public administration, defence, compulsory social security | 12,580                                   | 13,194 | 11,508  |
| Education                                                  | 15,380                                   | 18,144 | 14,138  |
| Human health and social work activities                    | 14,900                                   | 16,147 | 14,430  |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation                         | 3,818                                    | 4,712  | 3,415   |
| Other service activities                                   | 5,100                                    | 6,605  | 3,857   |
| Private households                                         | 1,387                                    | 1,426  | 1,373   |
| Extraterritorial organization & bodies                     | 9,624                                    | 7,827  | 13,698  |
| Not recorded                                               | 7,112                                    | 1,000  | 12,500  |
| Namibia                                                    | 7,935                                    | 8,052  | 7,789   |
|                                                            |                                          |        |         |

households.

Furthermore, the information on average monthly wages of employees by age groups for 2018 LFS presented in table 4.15 reveals

that monthly wage levels increases with the employees age, peaking at the age group of 55-59 years, but thereafter declined for the number of people aged 60 and above who

remained in employment.

**Table 4.15: Average monthly wages of employees by age group**

| Age group | Average monthly wage for employees (N\$) |        |         |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|--------|---------|
|           | Both sexes                               | Males  | Females |
| 15-19     | 1,113                                    | 1,076  | 1,177   |
| 20-24     | 2,507                                    | 2,698  | 2,270   |
| 25-29     | 5,188                                    | 5,059  | 5,333   |
| 30-34     | 7,570                                    | 7,526  | 7,622   |
| 35-39     | 9,833                                    | 10,263 | 9,305   |
| 40-44     | 10,005                                   | 11,011 | 8,573   |
| 45-49     | 10,595                                   | 10,494 | 10,724  |
| 50-54     | 11,655                                   | 11,046 | 12,543  |
| 55-59     | 12,662                                   | 11,661 | 13,734  |
| 60-64     | 9,986                                    | 9,262  | 11,846  |
| 65+       | 9,830                                    | 13,091 | 3,957   |

#### 4.10 Informal employment

When presenting statistics on employment, it is helpful to provide a breakdown of employment between formal and informal. The formal/informal employment definition is based on provision or availability of some form of formal social protection. Employees were categorized as being in formal employment if their employer was reported to provide at least a pension scheme,

medical aid and /or social security. Informal employment should not be confused with informal sector as these have different definitions.

The results presented in table 4.16 shows that 57.7 percent of the employed population are in informal employment.

This comprises of 54.1 percent of males and 61.2 percent females. On average, more females were in informal employment than males. In addition, 41.8 percent

of the employed population in urban areas and 78.9 percent of employees in rural areas were in informal employment.

The region with the highest percentage of informal employments were Kavango West and Ohangwena regions with 90.5 percent and 82.7 percent respectively. Whereas the region with the lowest percentage of employees in informal employments is Karas with 35.4 percent.

**Table 4.15: Average monthly wages of employees by age group**

|              | Both sexes          |                  |      | Male                |                  |      | Female              |                  |      |
|--------------|---------------------|------------------|------|---------------------|------------------|------|---------------------|------------------|------|
| Region       | Informal employment | Total employment | %    | Informal employment | Total employment | %    | Informal employment | Total employment | %    |
| Namibia      | 418,674             | 725,742          | 57.7 | 195,656             | 361,508          | 54.1 | 223,018             | 364,234          | 61.2 |
| Urban        | 173,835             | 415,588          | 41.8 | 80,050              | 211,594          | 37.8 | 93,786              | 203,994          | 46.0 |
| Rural        | 244,839             | 310,154          | 78.9 | 115,606             | 149,914          | 77.1 | 129,233             | 160,240          | 80.6 |
| !Karas       | 10,949              | 30,899           | 35.4 | 6,256               | 16,947           | 36.9 | 4,693               | 13,952           | 33.6 |
| Erongo       | 32,456              | 79,326           | 40.9 | 17,524              | 46,001           | 38.1 | 14,932              | 33,325           | 44.8 |
| Hardap       | 13,072              | 26,708           | 48.9 | 8,228               | 16,007           | 51.4 | 4,844               | 10,701           | 45.3 |
| Kavango East | 19,198              | 29,418           | 65.3 | 7,068               | 12,964           | 54.5 | 12,129              | 16,454           | 73.7 |
| Kavango West | 19,072              | 21,064           | 90.5 | 8,059               | 9,074            | 88.8 | 11,013              | 11,990           | 91.9 |
| Khomas       | 64,266              | 165,385          | 38.9 | 30,195              | 85,913           | 35.1 | 34,071              | 79,471           | 42.9 |
| Kunene       | 17,049              | 24,846           | 68.6 | 9,572               | 13,654           | 70.1 | 7,477               | 11,193           | 66.8 |
| Ohangwena    | 50,721              | 61,303           | 82.7 | 21,721              | 25,375           | 85.6 | 29,000              | 35,928           | 80.7 |
| Omaheke      | 12,354              | 20,575           | 60.0 | 8,903               | 13,611           | 65.4 | 3,452               | 6,964            | 49.6 |
| Omusati      | 61,018              | 77,375           | 78.9 | 23,789              | 30,446           | 78.1 | 37,229              | 46,930           | 79.3 |
| Oshana       | 38,993              | 61,223           | 63.7 | 14,834              | 25,214           | 58.8 | 24,159              | 36,009           | 67.1 |
| Oshikoto     | 39,185              | 54,078           | 72.5 | 18,000              | 25,622           | 70.3 | 21,184              | 28,457           | 74.4 |
| Otjozondjupa | 21,054              | 47,616           | 44.2 | 11,942              | 27,400           | 43.6 | 9,112               | 20,216           | 45.1 |
| Zambezi      | 19,290              | 25,925           | 74.4 | 9,564               | 13,280           | 72.0 | 9,726               | 12,645           | 76.9 |

Similarly, Table 4.17 presents the number of persons in informal employment by industry. The result shows that the industry with the highest level of informal employment were Private

households and Agriculture, forestry and fishing with 91.0 and 87.6 percent respectively, while the lowest level of informal employment was found in Public administration, defence,

compulsory social security which accounts for about 9.1 percent of employees.

**Table 4.17: Distribution of persons in informal employment by industry**

| Industry                                                   | Both sexes          |                  |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------|
|                                                            | Informal employment | Total employment | %    |
| Agriculture, forestry & fishing                            | 146,537             | 167,242          | 87.6 |
| Mining and quarrying                                       | 2,030               | 12,087           | 16.8 |
| Manufacturing                                              | 21,044              | 45,057           | 46.7 |
| Electricity & related industries                           | 408                 | 3,278            | 12.4 |
| Water supply & related industries                          | 1,040               | 4,095            | 25.4 |
| Construction                                               | 29,438              | 45,057           | 65.3 |
| Wholesale and retail trade                                 | 38,952              | 80,852           | 48.2 |
| Transportation and storage                                 | 10,749              | 24,710           | 43.5 |
| Accommodation and food service activities                  | 56,956              | 83,056           | 68.6 |
| Information and communication                              | 1,903               | 7,141            | 26.6 |
| Financial and insurance activities                         | 1,536               | 13,861           | 11.1 |
| Real estate activities                                     | 575                 | 1,050            | 54.8 |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities          | 1,488               | 8,648            | 17.2 |
| Administrative and support service activities              | 9,459               | 29,951           | 31.6 |
| Public administration, defence, compulsory social security | 3,108               | 34,174           | 9.1  |
| Education                                                  | 7,151               | 46,923           | 15.2 |
| Human health and social work activities                    | 3,501               | 19,527           | 17.9 |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation                         | 2,797               | 4,910            | 57.0 |
| Other service activities                                   | 13,983              | 20,865           | 67.0 |
| Private households                                         | 65,674              | 72,185           | 91.0 |
| Extraterritorial organization & bodies                     | 328                 | 1,035            | 31.7 |
| Not recorded                                               | 17                  | 37               | 46.9 |
| Namibia                                                    | 418,674             | 725,742          | 57.7 |

#### 4.11 Vulnerable employment

An important indicator in labour market analysis is the rate of vulnerable employment. Three main categories make up vulnerable group, namely, own account workers, Subsistence/Communal farmers and contributing (unpaid) family workers. The rate of vulnerability is calculated as the sum of Subsistence/ Communal Farmers, own-account workers

and contributing (unpaid) family workers, taken as the proportion of total employment. The rate of vulnerability is 31.6 percent. It is a measure of those with relatively precarious working situations.

These three status groups are considered as more vulnerable than others, because these people are unlikely to have formal work arrangements or access to benefits or social protection programmes, and they are more at risk to the

effect of the economic cycles.

Table 4.18 shows that most vulnerable workers are own account workers 44.1 percent, followed by subsistence/communal farmers with 41.0 percent. While Unpaid family worker (Subsistence/communal) and Unpaid family worker (other) only account for 7.4 percent each. The trend is similar for male and female.

| Table 4.18: Vulnerable workers by status in employment and sex |                |             |               |             |                |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| Vulnerable employment                                          | Both sexes     | %           | Male          | %           | Female         | %           |
| Other own account worker                                       | 101,036        | 44.1        | 39,411        | 44.4        | 61,625         | 43.9        |
| Subsistence/communal farmer                                    | 94,001         | 41.0        | 35,383        | 39.8        | 58,618         | 41.8        |
| Unpaid family worker (Subsistence/communal)                    | 17,040         | 7.4         | 7,430         | 8.4         | 9,610          | 6.8         |
| Unpaid family worker (other)                                   | 17,067         | 7.4         | 6,592         | 7.4         | 10,474         | 7.5         |
| <b>Total</b>                                                   | <b>229,144</b> | <b>100.</b> | <b>88,816</b> | <b>100.</b> | <b>140,328</b> | <b>100.</b> |

Similarly, the distribution of persons in vulnerable employment by area and region presented in Table 4.19 shows that the majority (65.1%) of the employed population in vulnerable employment are in rural areas. Furthermore, at regional level,

Omusati region recorded the highest percent of persons in vulnerable employment at 17.2 percent, followed by Ohangwena (15.9%) and Khomas (12.2%). While, !Karas region recorded the lowest percentage of persons in vulnerable employment at 1.3

percent, followed by Hardap and Omaheke regions, both at 1.8 percent.

| Table 4.19: Distribution of persons in vulnerable employment by area and region |                                  |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|
|                                                                                 | Persons in vulnerable employment | %    |
| Namibia                                                                         | 229,144                          | 100  |
| Urban                                                                           | 80,059                           | 34.9 |
| Rural                                                                           | 149,085                          | 65.1 |
| !Karas                                                                          | 2,927                            | 1.3  |
| Erongo                                                                          | 12,283                           | 5.4  |
| Hardap                                                                          | 4,189                            | 1.8  |
| Kavango East                                                                    | 12,628                           | 5.5  |
| Kavango West                                                                    | 13,745                           | 6.0  |
| Khomas                                                                          | 28,013                           | 12.2 |
| Kunene                                                                          | 9,455                            | 4.1  |

|              |        |      |
|--------------|--------|------|
| Ohangwena    | 36,413 | 15.9 |
| Omaheke      | 4,129  | 1.8  |
| Omusati      | 39,304 | 17.2 |
| Oshana       | 25,290 | 11.0 |
| Oshikoto     | 22,249 | 9.7  |
| Otjozondjupa | 6,981  | 3.0  |
| Zambezi      | 11,538 | 5.0  |

#### 4.12 Union Density

A trade union is defined as an independent workers' organization, constituted for the purpose of furthering and defending the interests of workers. Trade union membership is defined as the total number of workers that currently belong to a trade union. Analysis of trade union density indicates an important degree of social dialogue prevailing in a country. Questions on unionization were asked to both the employed and unemployed persons but for the purpose of this report only those whose employment status is "employee" were considered. Table 4.20 shows that only 11.4 percent of the total employees in the country belonged to trade unions, a decrease from 17.5 percent reported in 2016. Females constitute the highest rates of trade union membership with 11.6 percent compared to their male counterparts with 11.2 percent. The rates for trade union membership were higher in urban areas (14.8%) than in rural areas (6.8%). At regional level, regions that were above the national average for union density includes !Karas (19.1%), Erongo (17.9%), and Kavango East (15.3%) regions respectively.

**Table 4.20: Employees union density by area and region**

| Region       | Employees belonging to trade union |        |        | Total number of employees |         |         | Union density (%) |      |        |
|--------------|------------------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|------|--------|
|              | Both sexes                         | Male   | Female | Both sexes                | Male    | Female  | Both sexes        | Male | Female |
| Namibia      | 82,688                             | 40,472 | 42,216 | 725,742                   | 361,508 | 364,234 | 11.4              | 11.2 | 11.6   |
| Urban        | 61,456                             | 31,421 | 30,035 | 415,588                   | 211,594 | 203,994 | 14.8              | 14.8 | 14.7   |
| Rural        | 21,232                             | 9,051  | 12,181 | 310,154                   | 149,914 | 160,240 | 6.8               | 6    | 7.6    |
| !Karas       | 5,908                              | 2,965  | 2,943  | 30,899                    | 16,947  | 13,952  | 19.1              | 17.5 | 21.1   |
| Erongo       | 14,221                             | 8,555  | 5,666  | 79,326                    | 46,001  | 33,325  | 17.9              | 18.6 | 17     |
| Hardap       | 3,011                              | 1,447  | 1,564  | 26,708                    | 16,007  | 10,701  | 11.3              | 9    | 14.6   |
| Kavango East | 4,503                              | 2,774  | 1,728  | 29,418                    | 12,964  | 16,454  | 15.3              | 21.4 | 10.5   |
| Kavango West | 790                                | 395    | 396    | 21,064                    | 9,074   | 11,990  | 3.8               | 4.4  | 3.3    |
| Khomas       | 16,835                             | 8,481  | 8,354  | 165,385                   | 85,913  | 79,471  | 10.2              | 9.9  | 10.5   |
| Kunene       | 2,942                              | 1,078  | 1,863  | 24,846                    | 13,654  | 11,193  | 11.8              | 7.9  | 16.6   |
| Ohangwena    | 4,553                              | 836    | 3,718  | 61,303                    | 25,375  | 35,928  | 7.4               | 3.3  | 10.3   |
| Omaheke      | 1,315                              | 733    | 583    | 20,575                    | 13,611  | 6,964   | 6.4               | 5.4  | 8.4    |
| Omusati      | 5,881                              | 1,832  | 4,049  | 77,375                    | 30,446  | 46,930  | 7.6               | 6    | 8.6    |
| Oshana       | 8,088                              | 3,085  | 5,003  | 61,223                    | 25,214  | 36,009  | 13.2              | 12.2 | 13.9   |
| Oshikoto     | 5,060                              | 3,136  | 1,924  | 54,078                    | 25,622  | 28,457  | 9.4               | 12.2 | 6.8    |
| Otjozondjupa | 6,415                              | 3,472  | 2,943  | 47,616                    | 27,400  | 20,216  | 13.5              | 12.7 | 14.6   |
| Zambezi      | 3,165                              | 1,684  | 1,481  | 25,925                    | 13,280  | 12,645  | 12.2              | 12.7 | 11.7   |



In addition, the distribution of the employee's union density by sex and industry presented in Table 4.21 shows that the Educational sector retains the highest union density at 53.6 percent, which declined from 55.8 percent

reported in 2016. Mining and Quarrying industry follows with 40.8 percent, with Water supply and related industries accounting for 32.1 percent and Human health and social work activities accounting for 30.7 percent of the

employees belonging to unions. In contrast, employees working in Private household are the least represented at 0.2 percent.

**Table 4.21: Employees union density by sex and industry**

| Industry                                                   | Employees belonging to trade union |       |        | Total number of employees |        |        | Union density (%) |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|--------|---------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------|------|--------|
|                                                            | Both sexes                         | Male  | Female | Both sexes                | Male   | Female | Both sexes        | Male | Female |
| Agriculture, forestry & fishing                            | 7,128                              | 3,715 | 3,414  | 167,242                   | 90,076 | 77,166 | 4.3               | 4.1  | 4.4    |
| Mining and quarrying                                       | 4,931                              | 3,965 | 966    | 12,087                    | 9,943  | 2,144  | 40.8              | 39.9 | 45.1   |
| Manufacturing                                              | 5,503                              | 3,972 | 1,530  | 45,057                    | 28,209 | 16,848 | 12.2              | 14.1 | 9.1    |
| Electricity & related industries                           | 801                                | 766   | 36     | 3,278                     | 2,517  | 760    | 24.4              | 30.4 | 4.7    |
| Water supply & related industries                          | 1,317                              | 951   | 366    | 4,095                     | 2,898  | 1,197  | 32.1              | 32.8 | 30.6   |
| Construction                                               | 1,906                              | 1,663 | 243    | 45,057                    | 41,759 | 3,298  | 4.2               | 4.0  | 7.4    |
| Wholesale and retail trade                                 | 5,808                              | 2,895 | 2,912  | 80,852                    | 41,882 | 38,969 | 7.2               | 6.9  | 7.5    |
| Transportation and storage                                 | 3,545                              | 2,775 | 769    | 24,710                    | 21,976 | 2,735  | 14.3              | 12.6 | 28.1   |
| Accommodation and food service activities                  | 3,502                              | 1,210 | 2,292  | 83,056                    | 19,156 | 63,900 | 4.2               | 6.3  | 3.6    |
| Information and communication                              | 1,250                              | 791   | 459    | 7,141                     | 5,583  | 1,558  | 17.5              | 14.2 | 29.5   |
| Financial and insurance activities                         | 3,405                              | 1,532 | 1,873  | 13,861                    | 4,688  | 9,173  | 24.6              | 32.7 | 20.4   |
| Real estate activities                                     | 0                                  | 0     | 0      | 1,050                     | 403    | 647    | 0.0               | 0.0  | 0.0    |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities          | 1,086                              | 644   | 443    | 8,648                     | 4,195  | 4,453  | 12.6              | 15.3 | 9.9    |
| Administrative and support service activities              | 3,518                              | 1,954 | 1,564  | 29,951                    | 16,987 | 12,964 | 11.7              | 11.5 | 12.1   |
| Public administration, defence, compulsory social security | 5,961                              | 3,539 | 2,422  | 34,174                    | 21,213 | 12,960 | 17.4              | 16.7 | 18.7   |
| Education                                                  | 25,151                             | 7,910 | 17,241 | 46,923                    | 14,302 | 32,621 | 53.6              | 55.3 | 52.9   |
| Human health and social work activities                    | 5,999                              | 1,705 | 4,295  | 19,527                    | 5,484  | 14,043 | 30.7              | 31.1 | 30.6   |



|                                              |        |        |        |         |         |         |      |      |      |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|------|------|------|
| A r t s ,<br>entertainment<br>and recreation | 303    | 86     | 217    | 4,910   | 1,263   | 3,648   | 6.2  | 6.8  | 6.0  |
| Other service<br>activities                  | 1,161  | 242    | 919    | 20,865  | 7,886   | 12,979  | 5.6  | 3.1  | 7.1  |
| P r i v a t e<br>households                  | 113    | 0      | 113    | 72,185  | 20,441  | 51,744  | 0.2  | 0.0  | 0.2  |
| Extraterritorial<br>organization &<br>bodies | 299    | 157    | 142    | 1,035   | 627     | 408     | 28.9 | 25.1 | 34.8 |
| Not recorded                                 | 0      | 0      | 0      | 37      | 17      | 19      | 0.0  | 0.0  | 0.0  |
| Namibia                                      | 82,688 | 40,472 | 42,216 | 725,742 | 361,508 | 364,234 | 11.4 | 11.2 | 11.6 |

## CHAPTER 5: UNEMPLOYMENT

### 5.1 The unemployed

The unemployment rate is widely regarded as one of the key labour market indicators and a good measure for employment creation and participation in economic activities in the country. A lower unemployment rate signifies an economy having the capacity to absorb available people of working age, while a higher rate signifies an economy that is unable to absorb available people of working age. Note that unemployment rate is a rather limited indicator with which to monitor the overall labour market situation.

The indicator therefore should be used with other labour market indicators, such as the employment-to-population ratio, employment by status in employment, level of education, occupation, sector of employment and wage indicators.

As noted above, if one uses the strict ILO definition, the unemployed population consists of all persons (15 years and above) who are not in employment, are available for work and actively looked for work during the reference period (the week preceding the interview). The broad unemployment definition drops the requirement of the person actively looked for work. This is done because in many developing economies like that of Namibia work opportunities are limited, and potential workers may well give up after an unsuccessful period of looking for work. The “relaxed” or broad definition is used for the most part in this report however, tables that are based on the “strict” definition are presented in Annexure A for the international comparison purpose.

This chapter therefore looks at various characteristics of unemployed population in Namibia as reported in the survey. Furthermore, the chapter examines the unemployment by age, sex, levels of educational,

region, duration of unemployment and means of looking for work by the unemployed persons.

#### 5.1.1 National broad unemployment estimates

Figure 5.1 shows the unemployment rate for the population aged 15 years and above as measured using the broad definition. The result shows that the overall broad unemployment rate for Namibia is 33.4 percent, which is a slight decrease of 0.6 percentage compared to 34.0 percent in 2016. The figure also shows that urban unemployment has increase by 3.1 percent while rural unemployment has decreased by 5.7 percent. Hence, the slight national increase of 0.4 percent in the unemployment rate can be attributed to the decrease of 5.7 percent in rural unemployment.

Similarly, the result further shows that in 2018, unemployment rate was higher amongst females (34.3%) as compared to their male counterparts (32.5%).

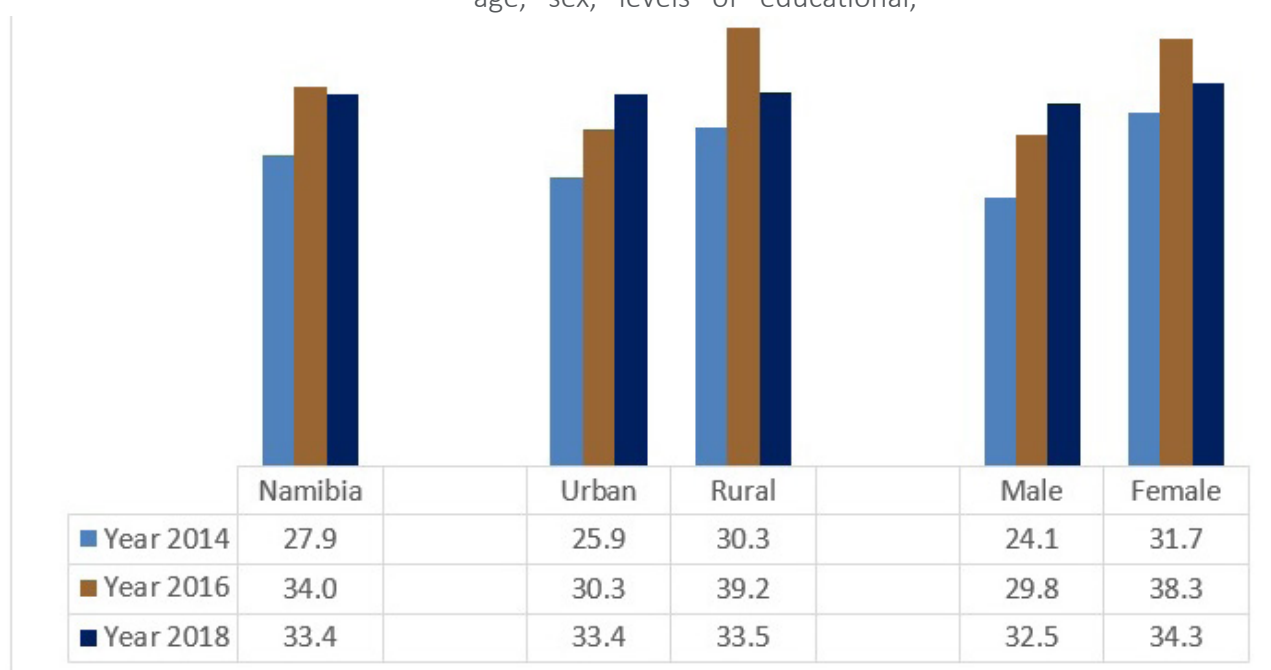


Figure 5.1: Broad unemployment rate by sex, and area

Table 5.1 Changes in absorption rate for the period 2016 to 2018 by sex, area

|      |                   | Namibia    |      |        | Urban      |      |        | Rural      |      |        |
|------|-------------------|------------|------|--------|------------|------|--------|------------|------|--------|
|      |                   | Both sexes | Male | Female | Both sexes | Male | Female | Both sexes | Male | Female |
| 2018 | <b>Total</b>      | 47.4       | 49.6 | 45.3   | 50.2       | 53.2 | 47.5   | 44.1       | 45.3 | 42.9   |
| 2016 | <b>Total</b>      | 45.8       | 51   | 41.1   | 53.8       | 58.9 | 49     | 37.1       | 42   | 32.7   |
|      | <b>EPR Change</b> | 1.6        | -1.4 | 4.2    | -3.6       | -5.7 | -1.5   | 7          | 3.3  | 10.2   |

The decline in rural unemployment can be attributed to the increase of the absorption rate (7.0%) of rural economics from 2016 to 2018 as shown in Table 5.1.

Table 5.2 presents the broad unemployment rates of the population aged 15 years and above by sex and age group. Overall unemployment rate is high amongst younger age groups with

the rates 69.6 and 57.0 percent for the age groups 15-19 and 20-24 years respectively. Unemployment rates for female in all age groups under 50 years is higher than for male in the same age groups with

Table 5.2: Unemployment rate by sex and age group

| Age group | Both sexes |              |      | Male       |              |      | Female     |              |      |
|-----------|------------|--------------|------|------------|--------------|------|------------|--------------|------|
|           | Unemployed | Labour Force | Rate | Unemployed | Labour Force | Rate | Unemployed | Labour Force | Rate |
| 15-19     | 35,921     | 51,627       | 69.6 | 17,597     | 26,885       | 65.5 | 18,324     | 24,742       | 74.1 |
| 20-24     | 94,081     | 165,154      | 57.0 | 43,649     | 81,709       | 53.4 | 50,432     | 83,445       | 60.4 |
| 25-29     | 81,244     | 192,085      | 42.3 | 37,944     | 95,457       | 39.8 | 43,300     | 96,628       | 44.8 |
| 30-34     | 54,523     | 167,757      | 32.5 | 26,016     | 82,779       | 31.4 | 28,508     | 84,979       | 33.5 |
| 35-39     | 33,119     | 133,811      | 24.8 | 15,662     | 66,124       | 23.7 | 17,456     | 67,687       | 25.8 |
| 40-44     | 25,874     | 111,770      | 23.1 | 12,429     | 55,028       | 22.6 | 13,445     | 56,742       | 23.7 |
| 45-49     | 17,471     | 87,092       | 20.1 | 8,458      | 42,187       | 20.0 | 9,013      | 44,905       | 20.1 |
| 50-54     | 9,942      | 64,723       | 15.4 | 4,830      | 31,376       | 15.4 | 5,112      | 33,347       | 15.3 |
| 55-59     | 7,272      | 48,264       | 15.1 | 4,207      | 22,406       | 18.8 | 3,064      | 25,858       | 11.9 |
| 60-64     | 2,212      | 24,058       | 9.2  | 1,242      | 11,145       | 11.1 | 969        | 12,913       | 7.5  |
| 65+       | 2,752      | 43,812       | 6.3  | 1,869      | 20,316       | 9.2  | 883        | 23,495       | 3.8  |
| Namibia   | 364,411    | 1,090,153    | 33.4 | 173,904    | 535,412      | 32.5 | 190,507    | 554,741      | 34.3 |

the overall female unemployment rate of 34.3 percent as compared to 32.5 percent for males.

### 5.1.2 Regional unemployment rates

The result of the regional unemployment rate presented in Table 5.3 below showed that the rate was highest in Kavango East (48.2%), Kunene (41.6%) and Omaheke (38.7%). While Omusati (24.0%) and Erongo (29.7%) regions recorded the lowest

unemployment rate respectively. Furthermore, generally the unemployment rate was higher for females than males for all regions except in Oshikoto (37.1%), Ohangwena (33.6%), Oshana (35.7%) and Omusati (27.6%).

**Table 5.3: Unemployment rate by sex and region**

|              | Both sexes |              |       | Male       |              |       | Female     |              |       |
|--------------|------------|--------------|-------|------------|--------------|-------|------------|--------------|-------|
| Region       | Unemployed | Labour Force | Rate  | Unemployed | Labour Force | Rate  | Unemployed | Labour Force | Rate  |
| Namibia      | 364,411    | 1,090,153    | 33.4  | 173,904    | 535,412      | 32.5  | 190,507    | 554,741      | 34.3  |
| Urban        | 208,243    | 623,831      | 33.4  | 100,552    | 312,146      | 32.2  | 107,691    | 311,685      | 34.6  |
| Rural        | 156,168    | 466,322      | 33.5  | 73,352     | 223,266      | 32.9  | 82,816     | 243,056      | 34.1  |
| !Karas       | 14,685     | 45,585       | 32.2  | 7,152      | 24,100       | 29.7  | 7,533      | 21,485       | 35.1  |
| Erongo       | 33,474     | 112,800      | 29.7  | 18,393     | 64,394       | 28.6  | 15,081     | 48,406       | 31.2  |
| Hardap       | 14,060     | 40,769       | 34.5  | 7,171      | 23,178       | 30.9  | 6,889      | 17,591       | 39.2  |
| Kavango East | 27,382     | 56,799       | 48.2  | 11,744     | 24,708       | 47.5  | 15,638     | 32,092       | 48.7  |
| Kavango West | 10,396     | 31,459       | 33.0  | 4,268      | 13,342       | 32.0  | 6,127      | 18,117       | 33.8  |
| Khomas       | 75,936     | 241,321      | 31.5  | 37,349     | 123,262      | 30.3  | 38,588     | 118,059      | 32.7  |
| Kunene       | 17,703     | 42,549       | 41.6  | 8,557      | 22,211       | 38.5  | 9,145      | 20,338       | 45.0  |
| Ohangwena    | 30,652     | 91,955       | 33.3  | 12,869     | 38,244       | 33.6  | 17,783     | 53,711       | 33.1  |
| Omaheke      | 12,995     | 33,571       | 38.7  | 5,965      | 19,577       | 30.5  | 7,030      | 13,994       | 50.2  |
| Omusati      | 24,411     | 101,786      | 24.0  | 11,583     | 42,028       | 27.6  | 12,828     | 59,758       | 21.5  |
| Oshana       | 29,535     | 90,757       | 32.5  | 13,970     | 39,184       | 35.7  | 15,565     | 51,574       | 30.2  |
| Oshikoto     | 30,641     | 84,719       | 36.2  | 15,126     | 40,748       | 37.1  | 15,514     | 43,971       | 35.3  |
| Otjozondjupa | 26,865     | 74,481       | 36.1  | 12,506     | 39,906       | 31.3  | 14,360     | 34,576       | 41.5  |
| Zambezi      | 15,675     | 41,600       | 37.68 | 7,249.67   | 20,530       | 35.31 | 8,426      | 21,070       | 39.99 |

### 5.1.3 Unemployment by educational level

Table 5.4 presents the unemployment rates by level of education and sex. The result showed that persons with post-school education (such as Currently at university, university

certificate, diploma or degree, post-graduate (Certificate, diploma or degree) constitute a combined unemployed rate of 51.6 percent. The highest unemployment rates were found amongst persons with junior secondary (40.1%) and primary (34%) education with a combined unemployment rate of

74.7 percent. Furthermore, the unemployment rate of persons with no formal education stands at 28.6 percent.

**Table 5.4: Unemployment by educational level and sex**

|                                               | Both sexes |              |      | Male       |              |      | Female     |              |      |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------|--------------|------|------------|--------------|------|------------|--------------|------|
| Highest Educational level completed           | Unemployed | Labour Force | Rate | Unemployed | Labour Force | Rate | Unemployed | Labour Force | Rate |
| None                                          | 34,199     | 119,551      | 28.6 | 16,227     | 66,002       | 24.6 | 17,972     | 53,548       | 33.6 |
| Primary                                       | 77,302     | 223,392      | 34.6 | 40,041     | 114,496      | 35.0 | 37,262     | 108,896      | 34.2 |
| Junior secondary                              | 153,617    | 382,875      | 40.1 | 69,674     | 174,981      | 39.8 | 83,943     | 207,894      | 40.4 |
| Senior secondary                              | 71,461     | 218,335      | 32.7 | 33,937     | 106,764      | 31.8 | 37,525     | 111,571      | 33.6 |
| Technical / vocational certificate or Diploma | 8,127      | 24,419       | 33.3 | 5,150      | 16,149       | 31.9 | 2,976      | 8,270        | 36.0 |
| Completed year 1 or 2 or 3                    | 4,838      | 17,432       | 27.8 | 1,686      | 7,477        | 22.5 | 3,152      | 9,955        | 31.7 |
| University certificate, diploma or degree     | 9,933      | 69,261       | 14.3 | 4,225      | 30,869       | 13.7 | 5,708      | 38,391       | 14.9 |
| Postgraduate certificate, diploma or degree   | 1,928      | 20,306       | 9.5  | 1,037      | 10,236       | 10.1 | 891        | 10,070       | 8.8  |
| Don't know                                    | 3,006      | 14,582       | 20.6 | 1,927      | 8,436        | 22.8 | 1,080      | 6,146        | 17.6 |
| Namibia                                       | 364,411    | 1,090,153    | 33.4 | 173,904    | 535,412      | 32.5 | 190,507    | 554,741      | 34.3 |

## 5.2 Looking for work

The unemployed persons were asked as to what they have done in the last four weeks prior to the survey to look for work or start a

business. The result presented in Table 5.5 indicates that 48.3 percent of the unemployed persons had sought assistance of friends and relatives, 23.3 percent had directly applied for jobs to employers.

Only 1.1 and 0.7 percent have indicated that they have registered with the Ministry of Labour and Employment Creation offices and with other employment agencies respectively.

**Table 5.5: Unemployed persons, by sex and method of searching for work**

|                                                                                            | Both sexes | Male   | Female | Both sexes  | Male | Female |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|--------|-------------|------|--------|
|                                                                                            | Number     |        |        | Percentages |      |        |
| Seeking assistance of friends, relatives, colleagues, union, etc.                          | 86,194     | 46,195 | 39,998 | 48.3        | 48.1 | 48.5   |
| Direct Applications to employers                                                           | 41,635     | 20,780 | 20,855 | 23.3        | 21.6 | 25.3   |
| Checking at work Sites                                                                     | 23,714     | 16,268 | 7,447  | 13.3        | 16.9 | 9.0    |
| Placed or answered media advertisement                                                     | 14,702     | 6,393  | 8,309  | 8.2         | 6.7  | 10.1   |
| Sought financial assistance to look for work or start a business                           | 4,289      | 1,649  | 2,640  | 2.4         | 1.7  | 3.2    |
| Looked for land building, equipment or replied for permit to start own business or farming | 3,759      | 2,410  | 1,349  | 2.1         | 2.5  | 1.6    |
| Registration at Ministry of Labour offices                                                 | 1,967      | 964    | 1,003  | 1.1         | 1    | 1.2    |
| Registration at other employment Agencies                                                  | 1,297      | 830    | 467    | 0.7         | 0.9  | 0.6    |
| Others(specify)                                                                            | 967        | 589    | 379    | 0.5         | 0.6  | 0.5    |
| Namibia                                                                                    | 178,525    | 96,078 | 82,447 | 100         | 100  | 100    |

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**Table 5.6: Unemployment person, location and length of time without work**

| Region       | Duration unemployed |              |         |            |         |          |             |           |            |       |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|---------|------------|---------|----------|-------------|-----------|------------|-------|
|              | < 6 months          | 6 <12 months | 1+ year | Not stated | Total   | <6 moths | 6<12 months | 1 + Years | Not stated | Total |
| Namibia      | 59,278              | 38,109       | 264,099 | 2,925      | 364,411 | 16.3     | 10.5        | 72.5      | 0.8        | 100   |
| Urban        | 37,199              | 23,392       | 146,473 | 1,180      | 208,243 | 17.9     | 11.2        | 70.3      | 0.6        | 100   |
| Rural        | 22,080              | 14,717       | 117,626 | 1,745      | 156,168 | 14.1     | 9.4         | 75.3      | 1.1        | 100   |
| Erongo       | 7,634               | 4,074        | 21,619  | 147        | 33,474  | 22.8     | 12.2        | 64.6      | 0.4        | 100   |
| Hardap       | 4,323               | 2,156        | 7,528   | 54         | 14,060  | 30.7     | 15.3        | 53.5      | 0.4        | 100   |
| Karas        | 4,219               | 1,865        | 8,602   | 0          | 14,685  | 28.7     | 12.7        | 58.6      | 0.0        | 100   |
| Kavango East | 3,056               | 2,319        | 22,007  | 0          | 27,382  | 11.2     | 8.5         | 80.4      | 0.0        | 100   |
| Kavango west | 1,726               | 1,869        | 6,800   | 0          | 10,396  | 16.6     | 18          | 65.4      | 0.0        | 100   |
| Khomas       | 10,735              | 9,368        | 55,553  | 280        | 75,936  | 14.1     | 12.3        | 73.2      | 0.4        | 100   |
| Kunene       | 1,736               | 720          | 13,705  | 1,541      | 17,703  | 9.8      | 4.1         | 77.4      | 8.7        | 100   |
| Ohangwena    | 3,007               | 3,553        | 23,626  | 466        | 30,652  | 9.8      | 11.6        | 77.1      | 1.5        | 100   |
| Omaheke      | 2,768               | 739          | 9,286   | 202        | 12,995  | 21.3     | 5.7         | 71.5      | 1.6        | 100   |
| Omusati      | 2,363               | 2,575        | 19,474  | 0          | 24,411  | 9.7      | 10.5        | 79.8      | 0.0        | 100   |
| Oshana       | 4,709               | 2,704        | 22,122  | 0          | 29,535  | 15.9     | 9.2         | 74.9      | 0.0        | 100   |
| Oshikoto     | 6,207               | 2,822        | 21,611  | 0          | 30,641  | 20.3     | 9.2         | 70.5      | 0.0        | 100   |
| Otjozondjupa | 4,258               | 1,865        | 20,508  | 235        | 26,865  | 15.8     | 6.9         | 76.3      | 0.9        | 100   |
| Zambezi      | 2,538               | 1,480        | 11,657  | 0          | 15,675  | 16.2     | 9.4         | 74.4      | 0.0        | 100   |

Similarly, the result on the length of time without work for the unemployed person presented in Table 5.7 shows that the majority (72.5%) of the unemployed persons in Namibia were without work for at least a year. On the other hand, 16.3 percent of the unemployed

persons have been without work for less than 6 months, with a further 10.5 percent having been out of work for about 6 months to a year. The result further showed that 68 percent of the unemployed males were without work for 12 months or more, followed by who

have been out of work for less than 6 months and 6 months to a year with 18.9 and 11.7 percent respectively, while 75.9 percent of unemployed females were with unemployed for 12 months or more.

| Table 5.7: Unemployed persons, by sex and length of time without work |         |      |          |      |         |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------|----------|------|---------|------|
| Duration                                                              | Total   |      | Male     |      | Female  |      |
|                                                                       | Number  | %    | Number   | %    | Number  | %    |
| Less than 6 months                                                    | 59,278  | 16.3 | 32,908.0 | 18.9 | 26,370  | 13.8 |
| 6 months to less than 12 months                                       | 38,109  | 10.5 | 20,376   | 11.7 | 17,732  | 9.3  |
| 12 months or more                                                     | 264,099 | 72.5 | 119,528  | 68.7 | 144,571 | 75.9 |
| Not stated                                                            | 2,925   | 0.8  | 1,092    | 0.6  | 1,833   | 1.0  |
| Namibia                                                               | 364,411 | 100  | 173,904  | 100  | 190,506 | 100  |



## CHAPTER 6: YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

## 6.1 Youth employment and unemployment estimates

The economic activity status of Namibian youth (persons aged 15 to 34 years) by the five-year age group and area is presented

in Table 6.1. There are 876,908 youth aged 15 to 34 in Namibia, of which, 310,854 (35.4%) were employed, and 265,770 (30.3%) were unemployed. This means that the labour force in these age groups totals 576,624 persons,

giving a labour force participation rate (LFPR) of 65.8 percent as indicated in table 6.2.

**Table 6.1: Economic activity status of youths aged 15 to 34 by sex and area**

| Age groups              | Namibia        |                |                | Urban          |                |                | Rural          |                |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                         | Both sexes     | Male           | Female         | Both sexes     | Male           | Female         | Both sexes     | Male           | Female         |
| All youth               |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| 15 - 19                 | 238,928        | 118,994        | 119,934        | 93,739         | 44,282         | 49,457         | 145,189        | 74,712         | 70,477         |
| 20 - 24                 | 238,148        | 116,964        | 121,184        | 110,408        | 50,562         | 59,846         | 127,740        | 66,402         | 61,338         |
| 25 - 29                 | 218,476        | 106,957        | 111,519        | 139,853        | 66,813         | 73,040         | 78,623         | 40,144         | 38,479         |
| 30 - 34                 | 181,356        | 88,221         | 93,135         | 131,732        | 64,883         | 66,849         | 49,624         | 23,338         | 26,286         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>876,908</b> | <b>431,136</b> | <b>445,772</b> | <b>475,732</b> | <b>226,540</b> | <b>249,192</b> | <b>401,176</b> | <b>204,596</b> | <b>196,580</b> |
| Employed                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| 15 - 19                 | 15,706         | 9,288          | 6,418          | 4,512          | 2,034          | 2,478          | 11,195         | 7,255          | 3,940          |
| 20 - 24                 | 71,072         | 38,059         | 33,013         | 31,261         | 15,292         | 15,969         | 39,811         | 22,767         | 17,044         |
| 25 - 29                 | 110,841        | 57,513         | 53,328         | 72,489         | 36,016         | 36,473         | 38,352         | 21,496         | 16,856         |
| 30 - 34                 | 113,234        | 56,763         | 56,471         | 83,065         | 41,812         | 41,253         | 30,169         | 14,951         | 15,218         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>310,854</b> | <b>161,623</b> | <b>149,231</b> | <b>191,327</b> | <b>95,154</b>  | <b>96,173</b>  | <b>119,527</b> | <b>66,469</b>  | <b>53,058</b>  |
| Unemployed              |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| 15 - 19                 | 35,921         | 17,597         | 18,324         | 15,589         | 6,930          | 8,659          | 20,332         | 10,667         | 9,665          |
| 20 - 24                 | 94,081         | 43,649         | 50,432         | 44,326         | 20,028         | 24,298         | 49,756         | 23,622         | 26,134         |
| 25 - 29                 | 81,244         | 37,944         | 43,300         | 51,511         | 24,316         | 27,195         | 29,733         | 13,628         | 16,105         |
| 30 - 34                 | 54,523         | 26,016         | 28,508         | 39,080         | 19,240         | 19,840         | 15,442         | 6,775          | 8,667          |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>265,770</b> | <b>125,206</b> | <b>140,564</b> | <b>150,506</b> | <b>70,514</b>  | <b>79,992</b>  | <b>115,263</b> | <b>54,692</b>  | <b>60,571</b>  |
| Not Economically Active |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |
| 15 - 19                 | 187,046        | 91,932         | 95,114         | 73,398         | 35,156         | 38,242         | 113,648        | 56,776         | 56,872         |
| 20 - 24                 | 72,666         | 35,197         | 37,469         | 34,601         | 15,242         | 19,359         | 38,065         | 19,955         | 18,110         |
| 25 - 29                 | 25,870         | 10,979         | 14,891         | 15,602         | 6,230          | 9,372          | 10,268         | 4,749          | 5,519          |
| 30 - 34                 | 12,840         | 4,710          | 8,130          | 8,935          | 3,206          | 5,729          | 3,905          | 1,504          | 2,401          |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>298,422</b> | <b>142,818</b> | <b>155,604</b> | <b>132,536</b> | <b>59,834</b>  | <b>72,702</b>  | <b>165,886</b> | <b>82,984</b>  | <b>82,902</b>  |

In Table 6.2 below, it is observed that Youth Labour Participation rate (LFPR) and employment-to-population ratios (EPR) increased drastically with aging for both males and females, while youth unemployment rate decreases with aging. Overall youth unemployment rate is 46.1 percent which is an increase of 2.7 percent compared to the youth unemployment rate of 43.4 percent reported in 2016. Female youth experience a higher unemployment rate (48.5%) compare to their male counterparts (43.7%).

**Table 6.2: Employment indicators for youth aged 15 to 34 years, by sex and by age group**

| Age groups   | Labour Participation rate |             |             | Employment to population ratio |             |             | Unemployment rate |             |             |
|--------------|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
|              | Both sexes                | Male        | Female      | Both sexes                     | Male        | Female      | Both sexes        | Male        | Female      |
| 15 - 19      | 21.6                      | 22.6        | 20.6        | 6.6                            | 7.8         | 5.4         | 69.9              | 65.5        | 74.1        |
| 20 - 24      | 69.3                      | 69.9        | 68.9        | 29.8                           | 32.5        | 27.2        | 57.0              | 53.4        | 60.4        |
| 25 - 29      | 87.9                      | 89.2        | 86.6        | 50.7                           | 53.8        | 47.8        | 42.3              | 39.7        | 44.8        |
| 30 - 34      | 92.5                      | 93.8        | 91.2        | 62.4                           | 64.3        | 60.6        | 32.5              | 31.4        | 33.5        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>65.8</b>               | <b>66.5</b> | <b>65.0</b> | <b>35.4</b>                    | <b>37.5</b> | <b>33.5</b> | <b>46.1</b>       | <b>43.7</b> | <b>48.5</b> |

Table 6.3 presents the distribution of employed youth by occupation and sex. The table reveals that most youth (32.7%) were employed in

Elementary occupations, followed by Services workers and, shop and market sales (18.6%), as well as Craft and related trade (12.2%). In

general, similar trends is observed across the sex aggregate and the urban/rural spectrum.

**Table 6.3: Employed youth aged 15 to 34 by occupation and sex**

| Occupation                                        | Namibia        |                |                | Urban          |               |               | Rural          |               |               |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                                   | Both sexes     | Male           | Female         | Both sexes     | Male          | Female        | Both sexes     | Male          | Female        |
| Armed forces                                      | 2,862          | 2,144          | 718            | 2,516          | 1,900         | 616           | 346            | 244           | 102           |
| Legislators, senior officials and managers        | 3,567          | 1,877          | 1,690          | 3,475          | 1,785         | 1,690         | 92             | 92            | -             |
| Professionals                                     | 21,634         | 9,024          | 12,610         | 15,548         | 6,923         | 8,625         | 6,086          | 2,101         | 3,985         |
| Technicians and associate professionals           | 18,658         | 8,579          | 10,079         | 15,666         | 7,420         | 8,246         | 2,992          | 1,159         | 1,833         |
| Clerks                                            | 24,035         | 5,398          | 18,637         | 21,244         | 4,958         | 16,286        | 2,790          | 439           | 2,351         |
| Service workers and shop and market sales workers | 57,918         | 21,760         | 36,158         | 40,136         | 15,693        | 24,443        | 17,783         | 6,068         | 11,715        |
| Skilled agricultural and fishery workers          | 20,205         | 12,207         | 7,998          | 1,727          | 1,058         | 669           | 18,478         | 11,149        | 7,329         |
| Craft and related trades workers                  | 38,003         | 31,782         | 6,221          | 25,687         | 21,544        | 4,143         | 12,316         | 10,238        | 2,078         |
| Plant and machine operators and assemblers        | 14,012         | 13,200         | 812            | 11,590         | 10,948        | 642           | 2,423          | 2,253         | 170           |
| Elementary occupations                            | 101,776        | 50,450         | 51,326         | 47,351         | 19,185        | 28,166        | 54,425         | 31,265        | 23,160        |
| Not elsewhere classified                          | 8,184          | 5,203          | 2,981          | 6,388          | 3,741         | 2,647         | 1,796          | 1,462         | 334           |
| <b>Total</b>                                      | <b>310,854</b> | <b>161,624</b> | <b>149,230</b> | <b>191,327</b> | <b>95,154</b> | <b>96,173</b> | <b>119,527</b> | <b>66,470</b> | <b>53,057</b> |
| Occupation                                        | Percentage     |                |                |                |               |               |                |               |               |
| Armed forces                                      | 0.92           | 1.33           | 0.48           | 1.32           | 2             | 0.64          | 0.29           | 0.37          | 0.19          |
| Legislators, senior officials and managers        | 1.15           | 1.16           | 1.13           | 1.82           | 1.88          | 1.76          | 0.08           | 0.14          | 0             |
| Professionals                                     | 6.96           | 5.58           | 8.45           | 8.13           | 7.28          | 8.97          | 5.09           | 3.16          | 7.51          |
| Technicians and associate professionals           | 6              | 5.31           | 6.75           | 8.19           | 7.8           | 8.57          | 2.5            | 1.74          | 3.45          |
| Clerks                                            | 7.73           | 3.34           | 12.49          | 11.1           | 5.21          | 16.93         | 2.33           | 0.66          | 4.43          |
| Service workers and shop and market sales workers | 18.63          | 13.46          | 24.23          | 20.98          | 16.49         | 25.42         | 14.88          | 9.13          | 22.08         |

|                                            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Skilled agricultural and fishery workers   | 6.5        | 7.55       | 5.36       | 0.9        | 1.11       | 0.7        | 15.46      | 16.77      | 13.81      |
| Craft and related trades workers           | 12.23      | 19.66      | 4.17       | 13.43      | 22.64      | 4.31       | 10.3       | 15.4       | 3.92       |
| Plant and machine operators and assemblers | 4.51       | 8.17       | 0.54       | 6.06       | 11.51      | 0.67       | 2.03       | 3.39       | 0.32       |
| Elementary occupations                     | 32.74      | 31.21      | 34.39      | 24.75      | 20.16      | 29.29      | 45.53      | 47.04      | 43.65      |
| Not elsewhere classified                   | 2.63       | 3.22       | 2          | 3.34       | 3.93       | 2.75       | 1.5        | 2.2        | 0.63       |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> |

At industry level, table 6.4 presents the distribution of employed youth by sex and industry. About 15.4 percent of the youths were employed in Agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors, followed by Wholesale and retail trade (14.9%), Private households

(12.0%) and Accommodation and food services activities (11.7%). In addition, males dominate both the Agriculture, forestry and fishing as well as Construction sectors with about 20.5 and 13.8 percent respectively, while females were more dominant in

the Accommodation and food services activities (18.7%), Private households (17.9%), as well as in Wholesale and retail trade (15.9%).

**Table 6.4: Employed youth aged 15 to 34, by sex and industry**

| Industry                                                      | Number     |        |        | Percent    |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|--------|------------|------|--------|
|                                                               | Both sexes | Male   | Female | Both sexes | Male | Female |
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing                             | 47,863     | 33,056 | 14,807 | 15.4       | 20.5 | 9.9    |
| Wholesale and retail trade                                    | 46,318     | 22,555 | 23,763 | 14.9       | 14   | 15.9   |
| Private households                                            | 37,159     | 10,454 | 26,705 | 12.0       | 6.5  | 17.9   |
| Accommodation and food service activities                     | 36,314     | 8,435  | 27,879 | 11.7       | 5.2  | 18.7   |
| Construction                                                  | 23,987     | 22,332 | 1,655  | 7.7        | 13.8 | 1.1    |
| Manufacturing                                                 | 19,145     | 12,470 | 6,675  | 6.2        | 7.7  | 4.5    |
| Education                                                     | 17,527     | 5,162  | 12,365 | 5.6        | 3.2  | 8.3    |
| Administrative and support service activities                 | 13,436     | 8,380  | 5,056  | 4.3        | 5.2  | 3.4    |
| Public administration and defence, compulsory social security | 12,486     | 8,037  | 4,449  | 4.0        | 5.0  | 3.0    |
| Other service activities                                      | 12,278     | 4,510  | 7,768  | 3.9        | 2.8  | 5.2    |
| Transportation and storage                                    | 11,803     | 10,498 | 1,305  | 3.8        | 6.5  | 0.9    |
| Human health and social work activities                       | 8,054      | 2,091  | 5,963  | 2.6        | 1.3  | 4      |
| Financial and insurance activities                            | 6,393      | 1,829  | 4,564  | 2.1        | 1.1  | 3.1    |
| Mining and quarrying                                          | 4,516      | 3,673  | 843    | 1.5        | 2.3  | 0.6    |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities             | 4,422      | 2,058  | 2,364  | 1.4        | 1.3  | 1.6    |
| Information and communication                                 | 3,041      | 2,493  | 548    | 1          | 1.5  | 0.4    |
| Electricity and related industries                            | 1,779      | 1,427  | 352    | 0.6        | 0.9  | 0.2    |
| Water supply and related industries                           | 1,866      | 1,016  | 850    | 0.6        | 0.6  | 0.6    |

|                                                         |         |         |         |     |     |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----|-----|-----|
| Arts, entertainment and recreation                      | 1,977   | 862     | 1115    | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.7 |
| Real estate activities                                  | 428     | 251     | 177     | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies | 46      | 18      | 27      | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Not elsewhere classified                                | 17      | 17      | 0       | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| Namibia                                                 | 310,854 | 161,624 | 149,230 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Similarly, table 6.5 shows that youth unemployment was higher in rural areas (49.1%) than in urban areas (44.0%). Furthermore, the table shows that unemployment was generally higher for female than male youth in most of the regions, except in Erongo,

Oshana and Oshikoto region. Furthermore, the result showed that youth unemployment rates were higher than the national youth unemployment rate in most of the regions except in !Karas (44.7%), Erongo (36.8%), Omusati (39.7%), Hardap (41.9%)

and Khomas (43.0%) regions. The youth unemployment rates were particularly highest for Kavango East (62.5 percent) and Kunene (53.0 percent) regions respectively.

| Table 6.5: Unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 34 years by region and sex |             |              |      |             |              |      |             |              |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|------|-------------|--------------|------|-------------|--------------|------|
| Region                                                                       | Both Sexes  |              |      | Male        |              |      | Female      |              |      |
|                                                                              | Unemplo-yed | Labour force | %    | Unemplo-yed | Labour force | %    | Unemplo-yed | Labour force | %    |
| Namibia                                                                      | 265,770     | 576,623      | 46.1 | 125,206     | 286,829      | 43.7 | 140,564     | 289,794      | 48.5 |
| Urban                                                                        | 150,506     | 341,833      | 44.0 | 70,513      | 165,667      | 42.6 | 79,993      | 176,166      | 45.4 |
| Rural                                                                        | 115,264     | 234,790      | 49.1 | 54,693      | 121,162      | 45.1 | 60,571      | 113,628      | 53.3 |
| !Karas                                                                       | 10,117      | 22,645       | 44.7 | 4,769       | 11,634       | 41.0 | 5,348       | 11,011       | 48.6 |
| Erongo                                                                       | 20,800      | 56,571       | 36.8 | 11,428      | 30,906       | 37.0 | 9,372       | 25,665       | 36.5 |
| Hardap                                                                       | 8,820       | 21,060       | 41.9 | 4,392       | 11,755       | 37.4 | 4,428       | 9,305        | 47.6 |
| Kavango East                                                                 | 21,362      | 34,163       | 62.5 | 9,118       | 14,710       | 62.0 | 12,244      | 19,453       | 62.9 |
| Kavango West                                                                 | 8,035       | 17,173       | 46.8 | 3,289       | 7,372        | 44.6 | 4,746       | 9,801        | 48.4 |
| Khomas                                                                       | 57,524      | 133,710      | 43.0 | 26,435      | 66,139       | 40.0 | 31,089      | 67,571       | 46.0 |
| Kunene                                                                       | 12,777      | 24,105       | 53.0 | 6,176       | 12,148       | 50.8 | 6,601       | 11,957       | 55.2 |
| Ohangwena                                                                    | 24,561      | 47,788       | 51.4 | 10,240      | 20,986       | 48.8 | 14,321      | 26,802       | 53.4 |
| Omaheke                                                                      | 8,012       | 17,188       | 46.6 | 3,527       | 9,839        | 35.8 | 4,485       | 7,349        | 61.0 |
| Omusati                                                                      | 19,187      | 48,270       | 39.7 | 8,928       | 23,432       | 38.1 | 10,259      | 24,838       | 41.3 |
| Oshana                                                                       | 22,294      | 47,262       | 47.2 | 10,783      | 22,218       | 48.5 | 11,511      | 25,044       | 46.0 |
| Oshikoto                                                                     | 22,439      | 44,738       | 50.2 | 12,013      | 23,824       | 50.4 | 10,426      | 20,914       | 49.9 |
| Otjozondjupa                                                                 | 19,007      | 40,126       | 47.4 | 9,076       | 21,340       | 42.5 | 9,931       | 18,786       | 52.9 |
| Zambezi                                                                      | 10,835      | 21,824       | 49.7 | 5,032       | 10,526       | 47.8 | 5,803       | 11,298       | 51.4 |

## 6.2 Youth aged 15-34 years not in education and not in employment or training (NEET)

The NEET rate is defined as the percentage of youth aged 15-34 years who are not in employment and not in education or training.

The NEET concept was introduced alongside the unemployment rate in consideration of the fact that where youth do not reflect

as employed or part of the labour force is because they are in education or training, this is positive rather than negative. This fact needs to be considered, in particular, in respect of the age group 15-24 years. The NEET rate is therefore intended to reflect those youths who are not part of the labour force for reasons other than education and training.

Table 6.6 presents the result of NEET by age group and sex. The results show that about 305,981

(34.9%) youth are not in employment, education or training which shows a slight increase of 0.4 percent from the rate of 34.5 percent recorded in the 2016 LFS. The rate was particularly higher at the age group of 20-24 year (45.2%), and was very low among those in the age group of 15 to 19 years (18.5%). The rate was also found to be higher for female youth (37.1%) in relation to their male counterparts (32.7%).

**Table 6.6: NEET by age group and sex**

| Age group    | NEET           |                |                | Total Youth    |                |                | Percentages |             |             |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|              | Both sexes     | Male           | Female         | Both sexes     | Male           | Female         | Both sexes  | Male        | Female      |
| 15-19        | 44,251         | 20,114         | 24,137         | 238,928        | 118,994        | 119,934        | 18.5        | 16.9        | 20.1        |
| 20-24        | 107,589        | 49,191         | 58,398         | 238,148        | 116,964        | 121,184        | 45.2        | 42.1        | 48.2        |
| 25-29        | 92,391         | 42,969         | 49,422         | 218,476        | 106,957        | 111,519        | 42.3        | 40.2        | 44.3        |
| 30-34        | 61,750         | 28,541         | 33,209         | 181,356        | 88,221         | 93,135         | 34.0        | 32.4        | 35.7        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>305,981</b> | <b>140,815</b> | <b>165,166</b> | <b>876,908</b> | <b>431,136</b> | <b>445,772</b> | <b>34.9</b> | <b>32.7</b> | <b>37.1</b> |

Similarly, the distribution of NEET by region and sex is presented in Table 6.7. The result showed that there was no difference in the proportion of NEET in rural (34.8%)

and urban (35%) areas. Whereas, at regional level, regions such as Kunene had recorded the highest (47.5%) NEET, while regions such as Omusati recorded the lowest

(27.1%) NEET. The result further showed that NEET was higher for female youth as opposed to male youth except for Oshikoto region.

**Table 6.7: NEET by region and sex**

| Age group    | NEET       |         |         | Total Youth |         |         | Percentages |      |        |
|--------------|------------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|------|--------|
|              | Both sexes | Male    | Female  | Both sexes  | Male    | Female  | Both sexes  | Male | Female |
| Namibia      | 305,981    | 140,815 | 165,166 | 876,908     | 431,136 | 445,772 | 34.9        | 32.7 | 37.1   |
| Urban        | 166,464    | 76,069  | 90,395  | 475,732     | 226,540 | 249,192 | 35          | 33.6 | 36.3   |
| Rural        | 139,517    | 64,746  | 74,771  | 401,176     | 204,596 | 196,580 | 34.8        | 31.6 | 38     |
| !Karas       | 12,489     | 5,367   | 7,122   | 30,975      | 15,474  | 15,501  | 40.3        | 34.7 | 45.9   |
| Erongo       | 23,051     | 11,221  | 11,830  | 71,336      | 37,702  | 33,634  | 32.3        | 29.8 | 35.2   |
| Hardap       | 11,894     | 5,657   | 6,237   | 30,793      | 16,128  | 14,665  | 38.6        | 35.1 | 42.5   |
| Kavango East | 24,014     | 10,063  | 13,951  | 57,570      | 26,508  | 31,062  | 41.7        | 38   | 44.9   |
| Kavango West | 9,514      | 3,686   | 5,828   | 29,598      | 13,812  | 15,786  | 32.1        | 26.7 | 36.9   |
| Khomas       | 63,095     | 29,414  | 33,681  | 183,373     | 88,495  | 94,878  | 34.4        | 33.2 | 35.5   |
| Kunene       | 15,807     | 7,218   | 8,589   | 33,263      | 16,890  | 16,373  | 47.5        | 42.7 | 52.5   |
| Ohangwena    | 30,185     | 13,741  | 16,444  | 92,304      | 44,013  | 48,291  | 32.7        | 31.2 | 34.1   |
| Omaheke      | 10,475     | 4,718   | 5,757   | 23,395      | 12,708  | 10,687  | 44.8        | 37.1 | 53.9   |

|              |        |        |        |        |        |        |      |      |      |
|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------|------|------|
| Omusati      | 23,788 | 11,343 | 12,445 | 87,858 | 42,168 | 45,690 | 27.1 | 26.9 | 27.2 |
| Oshana       | 24,216 | 10,705 | 13,511 | 75,199 | 34,684 | 40,515 | 32.2 | 30.9 | 33.3 |
| Oshikoto     | 25,314 | 13,318 | 11,996 | 71,373 | 36,573 | 34,800 | 35.5 | 36.4 | 34.5 |
| Otjozondjupa | 20,761 | 9,867  | 10,894 | 52,179 | 27,292 | 24,887 | 39.8 | 36.2 | 43.8 |
| Zambezi      | 11,379 | 4,498  | 6,881  | 37,692 | 18,689 | 19,003 | 30.2 | 24.1 | 36.2 |

The results presented in table 6.8 shows that the proportion of youth in NEET decrease with increasing levels of education. In particular, the proportion is higher (61.1%) for youth who do not know their

education status, followed by those with no formal schooling (54.1%) and then by those who completed Primary education (35.7%). Youth who have completed Postgraduate Certificate, Diploma register the

lowest proportion (15.1%) in NEET. The trend is similar for male and female youth.

| Table 6.8: NEET by educational level and sex |            |         |         |             |         |         |             |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|------|--------|
| Highest level of education completed         | NEET       |         |         | Total Youth |         |         | Percentages |      |        |
|                                              | Both sexes | Male    | Female  | Both sexes  | Male    | Female  | Both sexes  | Male | Female |
| Don't know                                   | 3,881      | 2,417   | 1,464   | 6,347       | 3,985   | 2,362   | 61.1        | 60.7 | 62     |
| None                                         | 30,973     | 15,534  | 15,439  | 57,296      | 33,960  | 23,336  | 54.1        | 45.7 | 66.2   |
| Primary                                      | 65,641     | 32,026  | 33,615  | 183,808     | 99,237  | 84,571  | 35.7        | 32.3 | 39.7   |
| Junior secondary                             | 129,185    | 56,703  | 72,482  | 366,890     | 173,903 | 192,987 | 35.2        | 32.6 | 37.6   |
| Senior secondary                             | 58,509     | 26,594  | 31,915  | 175,484     | 81,165  | 94,319  | 33.3        | 32.8 | 33.8   |
| Technical / Vocational certificate/diploma   | 5,325      | 3,311   | 2,014   | 18,840      | 11,904  | 6,936   | 28.3        | 27.8 | 29     |
| Completed year 1 or 2 or 3                   | 7,173      | 2,499   | 4,674   | 38,133      | 15,438  | 22,695  | 18.8        | 16.2 | 20.6   |
| University certificate/diploma               | 4,260      | 1,299   | 2,961   | 23,251      | 8,377   | 14,874  | 18.3        | 15.5 | 19.9   |
| Postgraduate Certificate, Diploma            | 1,034      | 432     | 602     | 6,859       | 3,167   | 3,692   | 15.1        | 13.6 | 16.3   |
| Total                                        | 305,981    | 140,815 | 165,166 | 876,908     | 431,136 | 445,772 | 34.9        | 32.7 | 37.1   |

## ANNEX A: TABLES FOR STRICT LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS AND YOUTH AGED 15-24 YEARS ANNEX B: TABLES

| Table A 1: Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPR) by sex and region (strict) |              |             |        |              |             |        |              |             |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------|--------------|-------------|--------|--------------|-------------|--------|
| Area                                                                          | Both sexes   |             |        | Male         |             |        | Female       |             |        |
|                                                                               | Labour Force | Working age | LFPR % | Labour Force | Working age | LFPR % | Labour Force | Working age | LFPR % |
| Namibia                                                                       | 905,034      | 1,531,967   | 59.1   | 458,048      | 728,717     | 62.9   | 446,986      | 803,250     | 55.6   |
| Urban                                                                         | 542,572      | 827,889     | 65.5   | 279,698      | 397,991     | 70.3   | 262,874      | 429,898     | 61.1   |
| Rural                                                                         | 362,462      | 704,078     | 51.5   | 178,350      | 330,726     | 53.9   | 184,112      | 373,352     | 49.3   |
| !Karas                                                                        | 39,689       | 61,636      | 64.4   | 21,880       | 30,972      | 70.6   | 17,808       | 30,664      | 58.1   |
| Erongo                                                                        | 103,513      | 139,472     | 74.2   | 60,757       | 75,018      | 81.0   | 42,756       | 64,454      | 66.3   |
| Hardap                                                                        | 32,927       | 60,451      | 54.5   | 19,775       | 31,244      | 63.3   | 13,152       | 29,207      | 45.0   |
| Kavango East                                                                  | 39,803       | 89,391      | 44.5   | 17,900       | 39,312      | 45.5   | 21,903       | 50,079      | 43.7   |
| Kavango West                                                                  | 24,463       | 48,187      | 50.8   | 10,422       | 21,200      | 49.2   | 14,041       | 26,987      | 52.0   |
| Khomas                                                                        | 218,115      | 314,224     | 69.4   | 114,342      | 154,403     | 74.1   | 103,773      | 159,821     | 64.9   |
| Kunene                                                                        | 31,463       | 59,474      | 52.9   | 17,550       | 30,133      | 58.2   | 13,914       | 29,341      | 47.4   |
| Ohangwena                                                                     | 69,813       | 147,906     | 47.2   | 29,996       | 63,770      | 47.0   | 39,817       | 84,136      | 47.3   |
| Omaheke                                                                       | 26,666       | 45,756      | 58.3   | 16,620       | 24,686      | 67.3   | 10,046       | 21,070      | 47.7   |
| Omusati                                                                       | 84,905       | 154,450     | 55.0   | 34,480       | 64,560      | 53.4   | 50,425       | 89,890      | 56.1   |
| Oshana                                                                        | 74,075       | 127,139     | 58.3   | 31,562       | 54,834      | 57.6   | 42,513       | 72,305      | 58.8   |
| Oshikoto                                                                      | 66,606       | 123,575     | 53.9   | 32,428       | 57,800      | 56.1   | 34,179       | 65,775      | 52.0   |
| Otjozondjupa                                                                  | 60,768       | 97,873      | 62.1   | 34,195       | 50,789      | 67.3   | 26,573       | 47,084      | 56.4   |
| Zambezi                                                                       | 32,224       | 62,433      | 51.6   | 16,137       | 29,996      | 53.8   | 16,086       | 32,437      | 49.6   |



**Table A.2: Strict unemployment rate by region and area**

| Area         | Both sexes      |                 |        | Male            |                 |        | Female          |                 |        |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
|              | Unemplo-<br>yed | Labour<br>force | Rate % | Unemplo-<br>yed | Labour<br>force | Rate % | Unemplo-<br>yed | Labour<br>force | Rate % |
| Namibia      | 179,292         | 905,034         | 19.8   | 96,540          | 458,048         | 21.1   | 82,752          | 446,986         | 18.5   |
| Urban        | 126,984         | 542,572         | 23.4   | 68,104          | 279,698         | 24.3   | 58,880          | 262,874         | 22.4   |
| Rural        | 52,308          | 362,462         | 14.4   | 28,436          | 178,350         | 15.9   | 23,872          | 184,112         | 13.0   |
| !Karas       | 8,790           | 39,689          | 22.1   | 4,933           | 21,880          | 22.5   | 3,856           | 17,808          | 21.7   |
| Erongo       | 24,187          | 103,513         | 23.4   | 14,756          | 60,757          | 24.3   | 9,431           | 42,756          | 22.1   |
| Hardap       | 6,219           | 32,927          | 18.9   | 3,768           | 19,775          | 19.1   | 2,451           | 13,152          | 18.6   |
| Kavango East | 10,385          | 39,803          | 26.1   | 4,936           | 17,900          | 27.6   | 5,449           | 21,903          | 24.9   |
| Kavango West | 3,399           | 24,463          | 13.9   | 1,348           | 10,422          | 12.9   | 2,051           | 14,041          | 14.6   |
| Khomas       | 52,731          | 218,115         | 24.2   | 28,429          | 114,342         | 24.9   | 24,302          | 103,773         | 23.4   |
| Kunene       | 6,617           | 31,463          | 21.0   | 3,896           | 17,550          | 22.2   | 2,721           | 13,914          | 19.6   |
| Ohangwena    | 8,510           | 69,813          | 12.2   | 4,621           | 29,996          | 15.4   | 3,889           | 39,817          | 9.8    |
| Omaheke      | 6,091           | 26,666          | 22.8   | 3,009           | 16,620          | 18.1   | 3,082           | 10,046          | 30.7   |
| Omusati      | 7,530           | 84,905          | 8.9    | 4,035           | 34,480          | 11.7   | 3,495           | 50,425          | 6.9    |
| Oshana       | 12,852          | 74,075          | 17.3   | 6,348           | 31,562          | 20.1   | 6,504           | 42,513          | 15.3   |
| Oshikoto     | 12,528          | 66,606          | 18.8   | 6,806           | 32,428          | 21.0   | 5,722           | 34,179          | 16.7   |
| Otjozondjupa | 13,152          | 60,768          | 21.6   | 6,795           | 34,195          | 19.9   | 6,357           | 26,573          | 23.9   |
| Zambezi      | 6,299           | 32,224          | 19.5   | 2,857           | 16,137          | 17.7   | 3,441           | 16,086          | 21.4   |

**Table A.3: Strict unemployment rate by sex and age group**

| Region       | Both sexes      |                 |             | Male            |                 |             | Female          |                 |             |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
|              | Unemplo-<br>yed | Labour<br>force | Rate %      | Unemplo-<br>yed | Labour<br>force | Rate %      | Unemplo-<br>yed | Labour<br>force | Rate %      |
| 15-19        | 9,449           | 25,155          | 37.6        | 5,431           | 14,719          | 36.9        | 4,018           | 10,436          | 38.5        |
| 20-24        | 43,481          | 114,553         | 38.0        | 22,945          | 61,004          | 37.6        | 20,536          | 53,549          | 38.3        |
| 25-29        | 44,888          | 155,729         | 28.8        | 22,435          | 79,948          | 28.1        | 22,453          | 75,781          | 29.6        |
| 30-34        | 33,539          | 146,773         | 22.9        | 17,669          | 74,432          | 23.7        | 15,871          | 72,342          | 21.9        |
| 35-39        | 18,285          | 118,978         | 15.4        | 9,253           | 59,714          | 15.5        | 9,033           | 59,264          | 15.2        |
| 40-44        | 13,262          | 99,158          | 13.4        | 7,969           | 50,569          | 15.8        | 5,293           | 48,590          | 10.9        |
| 45-49        | 8,557           | 78,178          | 10.9        | 5,447           | 39,176          | 13.9        | 3,110           | 39,002          | 8.0         |
| 50-54        | 4,641           | 59,421          | 7.8         | 3,082           | 29,628          | 10.4        | 1,559           | 29,793          | 5.2         |
| 55-59        | 2,455           | 43,447          | 5.7         | 1,873           | 20,072          | 9.3         | 581             | 23,375          | 2.5         |
| 60-64        | 456             | 22,302          | 2.0         | 239             | 10,141          | 2.4         | 217             | 12,161          | 1.8         |
| 65+          | 278             | 41,338          | 0.7         | 197             | 18,645          | 1.1         | 81              | 22,693          | 0.4         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>179,292</b>  | <b>905,034</b>  | <b>19.8</b> | <b>96,540</b>   | <b>458,048</b>  | <b>21.1</b> | <b>82,752</b>   | <b>446,986</b>  | <b>18.5</b> |

## FOR YOUTH AGED 15-24 YEARS

| Table B.1: Economic activity of youth aged 15 to 24 years by sex and area |            |         |         |            |        |         |            |         |         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|------------|--------|---------|------------|---------|---------|
| Age groups                                                                | Namibia    |         |         | Urban      |        |         | Rural      |         |         |
|                                                                           | Both Sexes | Male    | Female  | Both Sexes | Male   | Female  | Both Sexes | Male    | Female  |
| All youth                                                                 |            |         |         |            |        |         |            |         |         |
| 15 - 19                                                                   | 238,928    | 118,994 | 119,934 | 93,739     | 44,282 | 49,457  | 145,189    | 74,712  | 70,477  |
| 20 - 24                                                                   | 238,148    | 116,964 | 121,184 | 110,408    | 50,562 | 59,846  | 127,740    | 66,402  | 61,338  |
| Total                                                                     | 477,076    | 235,958 | 241,118 | 204,147    | 94,844 | 109,303 | 272,929    | 141,114 | 131,815 |
| Employed                                                                  |            |         |         |            |        |         |            |         |         |
| 15 - 19                                                                   | 15,706     | 9,288   | 6,418   | 4,512      | 2,034  | 2,478   | 11,194     | 7,255   | 3,940   |
| 20 - 24                                                                   | 71,073     | 38,059  | 33,013  | 31,261     | 15,292 | 15,969  | 39,811     | 22,767  | 17,044  |
| Total                                                                     | 86,779     | 47,348  | 39,431  | 35,773     | 17,326 | 18,447  | 51,006     | 30,022  | 20,984  |
| Unemployed                                                                |            |         |         |            |        |         |            |         |         |
| 15 - 19                                                                   | 35,921     | 17,597  | 18,324  | 15,589     | 6,930  | 8,659   | 20,332     | 10,667  | 9,665   |
| 20 - 24                                                                   | 94,081     | 43,649  | 50,432  | 44,326     | 20,028 | 24,298  | 49,755     | 23,621  | 26,134  |
| Total                                                                     | 130,003    | 61,247  | 68,756  | 59,915     | 26,958 | 32,957  | 70,088     | 34,289  | 35,799  |

| Table B.2: Various labour statistics for youth aged 15 to 24 by sex and age group |                           |      |        |                                |      |        |                   |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------|--------|--------------------------------|------|--------|-------------------|------|--------|
| Age groups                                                                        | Labour Participation rate |      |        | Employment to population ratio |      |        | Unemployment rate |      |        |
|                                                                                   | Both Sexes                | Male | Female | Both Sexes                     | Male | Female | Both Sexes        | Male | Female |
| 15 - 19                                                                           | 21.6                      | 22.6 | 20.6   | 6.6                            | 7.8  | 5.4    | 69.6              | 65.5 | 74.1   |
| 20 - 24                                                                           | 69.3                      | 69.9 | 68.9   | 29.8                           | 32.5 | 27.2   | 57.0              | 53.4 | 60.4   |
| Total                                                                             | 45.4                      | 46.0 | 44.9   | 18.2                           | 20.1 | 16.4   | 60.0              | 56.4 | 63.6   |

| Table B.3: Unemployment rate for youths aged 15 to 24 by region and sex |                 |                 |        |                 |                 |        |                 |                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
|                                                                         | Both Sexes      |                 |        | Male            |                 |        | Female          |                 |        |
|                                                                         | Unemplo-<br>yed | Labour<br>Force | Rate % | Unemplo-<br>yed | Labour<br>Force | Rate % | Unemplo-<br>yed | Labour<br>Force | Rate % |
| Namibia                                                                 | 130,003         | 216,781         | 60.0   | 61,247          | 108,594         | 56.4   | 68,756          | 108,187         | 63.6   |
| Urban                                                                   | 59,915          | 95,688          | 62.6   | 26,958          | 44,283          | 60.9   | 32,957          | 51,405          | 64.1   |
| Rural                                                                   | 70,088          | 121,093         | 57.9   | 34,289          | 64,311          | 53.3   | 35,799          | 56,782          | 63.0   |
| !Karas                                                                  | 5,389           | 7,980           | 67.5   | 2,374           | 3,755           | 63.2   | 3,015           | 4,225           | 71.4   |
| Erongo                                                                  | 7,410           | 14,169          | 52.3   | 3,454           | 7,063           | 48.9   | 3,955           | 7,106           | 55.7   |
| Hardap                                                                  | 4,437           | 7,833           | 56.6   | 2,207           | 4,155           | 53.1   | 2,230           | 3,679           | 60.6   |
| Kavango East                                                            | 12,032          | 15,352          | 78.4   | 5,648           | 6,965           | 81.1   | 6,384           | 8,387           | 76.1   |
| Kavango West                                                            | 5,145           | 9,079           | 56.7   | 2,184           | 4,263           | 51.2   | 2,961           | 4,816           | 61.5   |
| Khomas                                                                  | 20,260          | 32,150          | 63.0   | 9,077           | 15,260          | 59.5   | 11,183          | 16,889          | 66.2   |
| Kunene                                                                  | 7,162           | 10,979          | 65.2   | 3,387           | 5,309           | 63.8   | 3,775           | 5,670           | 66.6   |
| Ohangwena                                                               | 15,019          | 24,726          | 60.7   | 6,232           | 11,732          | 53.1   | 8,786           | 12,994          | 67.6   |
| Omaheke                                                                 | 4,198           | 7,626           | 55.0   | 1,971           | 4,380           | 45.0   | 2,227           | 3,246           | 68.6   |
| Omusati                                                                 | 11,799          | 26,101          | 45.2   | 5,478           | 13,957          | 39.2   | 6,322           | 12,144          | 52.1   |
| Oshana                                                                  | 10,057          | 15,585          | 64.5   | 5,049           | 7,623           | 66.2   | 5,008           | 7,962           | 62.9   |
| Oshikoto                                                                | 12,552          | 21,624          | 58.0   | 6,799           | 12,099          | 56.2   | 5,753           | 9,524           | 60.4   |
| Otjozondjupa                                                            | 9,449           | 15,387          | 61.4   | 4,759           | 7,984           | 59.6   | 4,690           | 7,402           | 63.4   |
| Zambezi                                                                 | 5,094           | 8,190           | 62.2   | 2,627           | 4,049           | 64.9   | 2,467           | 4,141           | 59.6   |

| Table B.4: Percentage of Economic activity status of youths aged 15 to 34 by sex and area |            |       |        |            |       |        |            |       |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------|--------|------------|-------|--------|------------|-------|--------|
| Age groups                                                                                | Namibia    |       |        | Urban      |       |        | Rural      |       |        |
|                                                                                           | Both Sexes | Male  | Female | Both Sexes | Male  | Female | Both Sexes | Male  | Female |
| All youth                                                                                 |            |       |        |            |       |        |            |       |        |
| 15 - 19                                                                                   | 27.2       | 27.6  | 26.9   | 19.7       | 19.5  | 19.8   | 36.2       | 36.5  | 35.9   |
| 20 - 24                                                                                   | 27.2       | 27.1  | 27.2   | 23.2       | 22.3  | 24.0   | 31.8       | 32.5  | 31.2   |
| 25 - 29                                                                                   | 24.9       | 24.8  | 25.0   | 29.4       | 29.5  | 29.3   | 19.6       | 19.6  | 19.6   |
| 30 - 34                                                                                   | 20.7       | 20.5  | 20.9   | 27.7       | 28.6  | 26.8   | 12.4       | 11.4  | 13.4   |
| Total                                                                                     | 100.0      | 100.0 | 100.0  | 100.0      | 100.0 | 100.0  | 100.0      | 100.0 | 100.0  |
| Employed                                                                                  |            |       |        |            |       |        |            |       |        |
| 15 - 19                                                                                   | 5.1        | 5.7   | 4.3    | 2.4        | 2.1   | 2.6    | 9.4        | 3.5   | 2.0    |
| 20 - 24                                                                                   | 22.9       | 23.5  | 22.1   | 16.3       | 16.1  | 16.6   | 33.3       | 11.1  | 8.7    |
| 25 - 29                                                                                   | 35.7       | 35.6  | 35.7   | 37.9       | 37.9  | 37.9   | 32.1       | 10.5  | 8.6    |
| 30 - 34                                                                                   | 36.4       | 35.1  | 37.8   | 43.4       | 43.9  | 42.9   | 25.2       | 7.3   | 7.7    |
| Total                                                                                     | 100        | 100   | 100    | 100        | 100   | 100    | 100        | 32.5  | 27.0   |
| Unemployed                                                                                |            |       |        |            |       |        |            |       |        |
| 15 - 19                                                                                   | 13.5       | 14.1  | 13.0   | 10.4       | 9.8   | 10.8   | 17.6       | 19.5  | 16.0   |
| 20 - 24                                                                                   | 35.4       | 34.9  | 35.9   | 29.5       | 28.4  | 30.4   | 43.2       | 43.2  | 43.1   |
| 25 - 29                                                                                   | 30.6       | 30.3  | 30.8   | 34.2       | 34.5  | 34.0   | 25.8       | 24.9  | 26.6   |
| 30 - 34                                                                                   | 20.5       | 20.8  | 20.3   | 26.0       | 27.3  | 24.8   | 13.4       | 12.4  | 14.3   |



## **ANNEX C: QUESTIONNAIRE**



## NAMIBIA LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2018

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PART A</b><br><b>Identification Information:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                | <b>Field Administrative Information</b>                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Region</b><br><input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Code</b><br><input type="text"/>                            | <b>Final Results</b><br><input type="checkbox"/>                                                                                                   | <b>RESULT CODES</b><br>1 = Completed<br>2 = Partially Completed<br>3 = Non-Contact<br>4 = Refusal<br>5 = Other |
| <b>Constituency Name</b><br><input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Code</b><br><input type="text"/>                            | <b>Comments on any result code 2 to 5:</b><br><input type="text"/><br><input type="text"/><br><input type="text"/><br><input type="text"/>         |                                                                                                                |
| <b>PSU Number</b><br><input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Rural/Urban</b><br><input type="text"/>                     |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Segment (Interviewer)</b><br><input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Dwelling Number</b><br><input type="text"/>                 |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Household Number</b><br><input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Date of Interview</b><br>Started on <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/><br>Ended on <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Particulars of the Household</b><br><b>GPS Readings:</b> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>                                  | <b>Field Staff</b><br><b>Interviewer:</b> <input type="text"/> | <b>Staff code</b><br><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Physical Location of the household:</b> <input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Signature</b><br><input type="text"/>                       | <b>Date</b><br><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>       |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Telephone Number of the Household (if any)</b><br><input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Supervisor:</b><br><b>Name</b> <input type="text"/>         | <b>Staff code</b><br><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Questionnaire number of this household (for persons Nos 01 - 10=1, Nos 11-20=2, etc.)</b><br><input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Signature</b><br><input type="text"/>                       | <b>Date</b><br><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>       |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Name of Head of Household</b><br><input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Name of Primary Respondent</b><br><input type="text"/>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                |





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SURVEYS AND FIELD OPERATIONS

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NAMIBIA LABOUR FORCE SURVEY 2018  
SAMPLING TECHNICAL REPORT

Enquiries:  
Survey and Field Operations  
Tel: 061 431 3200

Date:  
February 2019



|                                         |    |
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## 1. Introduction

This report describes the methods used in conducting the Labour Force Survey (LFS 2018) focusing on the technical aspects of the survey methodology. The report also provides an assessment of the quality of data collected during the survey as well as the quality of the survey estimates.

### 1.1. Background to the LFS 2018

Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) has undertaken four Labour Force Surveys since 2012 as per the Cabinet directives. These surveys have generated diverse demographic and socio-economic information at grassroots level that has guided the formulation of policies and interventions aimed at monitoring the market related labour force indicators.

The 2018 LFS is the second LFS where the data was collected using Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) using tablets and technical reports were produced.

### 1.2. Objective of the LFS 2018

The 2018 survey was conducted with the objective of generating "timely collection and release of key socio-economic indicators for assessment of labour market conditions in Namibia." The survey covers all aspects of people's work, including the education and training needed to equip them for work, the jobs themselves, job search of those out of work, and income and benefits from work. More specifically, the survey was designed to provide detailed information on the followings:

- f) Information on the size and structure of the country's work force;
- g) Information on the size of the informal economy;
- h) Elements for measuring the labour supply and the extent to which the available human resources are utilised in the production process of the economy;
- i) Provides information on the employment situation of the country disaggregated by geographic area
- j) Provides information on the situation in regional markets and on the number of persons employed in specific occupational categories;

## 2. The sample

### 2.1. Target Population

The target population for the LFS 2018 is the non-institutional population residing in private households in the country. The institutional population are out of scope for LFS 2018. Therefore, people who are residing in hospitals, hostels, old age homes, orphanage homes,

police barracks, military barracks and prisons etc. were ineligible for LFS 2018. However, private households within institutional settings such as teachers' houses, hospital matrons in schools and health centres' premises were covered. The survey was designed to provide direct estimates of labour, demographic and socio-economic indicators at national, national urban, national rural and regional levels. The regions are the lowest reporting domains for LFS 2018.

### 2.2. The Sampling Frame

National sampling frame is a list of small geographical areas called Primary Sampling Units (PSU). They were created using the enumeration areas (EA) of the 2011 Population and Housing Census. The measure of size in the frame is the number of households within the PSU. There were a total of 6564 PSUs in Namibia. The frame units were stratified first by region, and then by urban/rural areas within each region.

### 2.3. The sample design

The LFS 2018 uses the National Sampling Frame that has been developed as a general-purpose household survey frame that can be used by all other NSA household-based surveys. The LFS 2018 data collection was based on the 2017 updated National Sampling Frame. This National Sampling Frame is based on information collected during the 2011 Census conducted by NSA. The Census EAs, together with the auxiliary information (e.g. Constituency name, EA type, EA formality) for the EAs, were used as the frame units or building blocks for the formation of primary sampling units (PSUs) for the National Sampling Frame, since they covered the entire country and had other information that is crucial for stratification and creation of PSUs.

The sample design for the LFS 2018 is a stratified two-stage cluster sample design with probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling of primary sampling units (PSUs) at the first stage, and sampling of households within the sampled PSUs at the second stage. Sample sizes were determined to give reliable estimates of the population characteristics at the regional level (i.e. lowest domain of estimation). A total of 10296 households constituted the sample for all 14 regions from 572 PSUs. Power allocation procedures were adopted to distribute the sample across the regions so that the smaller regions will get adequate samples.

#### 2.3.1. Selection of PSUs

The sample of 572 PSUs was selected in the first stage using

the Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) sampling procedure together with systematic sampling.

### 2.3.2. Selection of segments

The PSUs which were found to be larger in terms of the number of households during listing, were then divided into manageable sizes of segments of which one segment was selected using PPS approach. Listing was then done in the selected segment. The following regions

had PSUs segmented due to high population growth in those PSUs. These are Karas (1 PSU), Hardap (1 PSU), Erongo (1 PSU), Kavango East (2 PSUs), Khomas (2 PSUs), Kunene (5 PSUs), Omusati (2 PSUs), Zambezi (4 PSUs) and Otjozondjupa (1 PSU).

### 2.3.3. Selection of Households

The second stage of the sampling exercise was the selection of households to be interviewed from each of the selected PSUs. This

process began with listing of all the households in each selected PSUs using the tablets.

Once the listing of households in the PSU is completed, the 18 households were randomly selected from those listed using a Systematic Sampling procedure. The sampling algorithm was incorporated into the CAPI application.

### 2.3.4. The 2018 LFS Sample distribution

The final sample for the LFS 2018 was 10 296 households sampled from a

total of 572 PSUs nationwide. Eighteen households (18) were sampled per PSU. The sample distribution by national urban/rural and region is given in Table 1.

**Table D.1: The sample distribution by area**

| Region       | Sample PSUs |       |       | Sample households |       |        |
|--------------|-------------|-------|-------|-------------------|-------|--------|
|              | Urban       | Rural | Total | Urban             | Rural | Total  |
| Namibia      | 264         | 308   | 572   | 4 752             | 5 544 | 10 296 |
| !Karas       | 17          | 14    | 31    | 306               | 252   | 558    |
| Erongo       | 39          | 6     | 45    | 702               | 108   | 810    |
| Hardap       | 21          | 13    | 34    | 378               | 234   | 612    |
| Kavango East | 29          | 18    | 47    | 522               | 324   | 846    |
| Kavango West | 4           | 29    | 33    | 72                | 522   | 594    |
| Khomas       | 59          | 4     | 63    | 1 062             | 72    | 1 134  |
| Kunene       | 12          | 25    | 37    | 216               | 450   | 666    |
| Ohangwena    | 6           | 38    | 44    | 108               | 684   | 792    |
| Omaheke      | 13          | 20    | 33    | 234               | 360   | 594    |
| Omusati      | 4           | 42    | 46    | 72                | 756   | 828    |
| Oshana       | 22          | 19    | 41    | 396               | 342   | 738    |
| Oshikoto     | 7           | 39    | 46    | 126               | 702   | 828    |
| Otjozondjupa | 21          | 17    | 38    | 378               | 306   | 684    |
| Zambezi      | 10          | 24    | 34    | 180               | 432   | 612    |

### 3. Sample Realization

After data collection and structural editing process, the household file and person file were made available for the calculation of weights. Prior to weighting it is important to verify the number of households and PSUs received against the actual sample. This will allow each sample to be accounted for during the weighting process. The household file received had 9728 records which was used for the calculation of the design weight and the individual file had 40 993 records used for the calibration.

#### 3.1 The response rate

The response rate is defined as

the proportion (expressed in percentage) of the households which have responded to the survey questionnaires out of the total expected households in the survey. When the household sample was implemented it was not possible to interview some of the households due to refusals or non-contacts etc., therefore, such households were not substituted or replaced. The response rate (RR) is given by;

$$RR = \frac{\text{Responding Households}}{\text{Sampled Households}} * 100$$

(1)

After data processing, 9 728 of 10 296 sampled households were successfully interviewed, resulting in 94.5 percent response rate which is quite satisfactory. Omusati region recorded the highest response rate (98.7%) followed by Ohangwena region with 97.7%. The lowest response rates were observed in Hardap (91.5%), Erongo (90.4%) and Kunene (89.0%) regions. The rural response rate (95.2%) is higher than the national (94.5%) response rate.

**Table D.2: Response rate by area**

| Region       | Sampled Households | Responding Households | Response rate |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Namibia      | 10 296             | 9 728                 | 94.5          |
| Urban        | 4 752              | 4 449                 | 93.6          |
| Rural        | 5 544              | 5 279                 | 95.2          |
| !Karas       | 558                | 524                   | 93.9          |
| Erongo       | 810                | 732                   | 90.4          |
| Hardap       | 612                | 560                   | 91.5          |
| Kavango East | 846                | 823                   | 97.3          |
| Kavango West | 594                | 571                   | 96.1          |
| Khomas       | 1 134              | 1 063                 | 93.7          |
| Kunene       | 666                | 593                   | 89.0          |
| Ohangwena    | 792                | 774                   | 97.7          |
| Omaheke      | 594                | 553                   | 93.1          |
| Omusati      | 828                | 817                   | 98.7          |
| Oshana       | 738                | 719                   | 97.4          |
| Oshikoto     | 828                | 792                   | 95.7          |
| Otjozondjupa | 684                | 639                   | 93.4          |
| Zambezi      | 612                | 568                   | 92.8          |

### 4. The sample weight

Weighting is a process of accounting for the selection probabilities and non-response in a sample survey. The inverse of these selection probabilities adjusted for non-response is called the design (base) weight. Given the population projections from the Population and Housing Censuses and Demographic Surveys Division, weight adjustment of the design

weight could be performed so that the survey estimates could conform to the projection totals. Due to the limitations of post stratified weight adjustment in controlling a large number of cells at different levels a complex procedure known as calibration was applied.

#### 4.1. The design/base weight

Population figures were estimated

by raising sample figures using design weights. Design weights were calculated based on probabilities of selection at each stage. The first stage weight was calculated using the sample selection information from the sampling frame and the second stage weight was based on sample selection information on the household listing.



The first stage probability of selection  $p_1$  is given by;

$$p_1 = \frac{M_{hi} * n_h}{M_h} \quad (2)$$

where;

$M_{hi}$  = Number of households in PSU (i) in stratum  $h$  (PSU size)

$M_h$  = Total number of households in stratum  $h$  (stratum size)

$n_h$  = Number of PSUs selected from the stratum  $h$

The second stage probability of selection  $p_2$  is given by;

$$p_2 = \frac{m_{hi}}{M'_{hi}} \quad (3)$$

Where;

$m_{hi}$  = Number of households in the sample from PSU (i) in stratum  $h$

$M'_{hi}$  = Number of households in PSU (i) in stratum  $h$  according to survey listing

Therefore, the Inverse Sampling Rate (ISR) which is the design weights becomes;

$$ISR = \frac{1}{p_1} * \frac{1}{p_2} = \frac{M_h}{M_{hi} * n_h} * \frac{M'_{hi}}{m_{hi}} \quad (4)$$

## 4.2 The design weight adjustment

### 4.2.1 Adjustment for Segmented PSU

For the PSUs that were segmented, additional probability of selection was introduced. Let  $t$  be the number of households in the selected segment and  $T$  be the total number of households in a segmented PSU, then (2) i.e. Equation 2 above can be adjusted to account for segments selection to be;

$$p_1^{adj} = \frac{M_{hi} * n_h * t}{M_h * T}$$

### 4.2.2 Adjustment for Household Non-response

Unit non-response can be accounted for during surveys. An adjustment is usually made to the design weight on the assumption that the characteristics of the responding units are similar to those of the non-responding units. Generally, the non-response adjustment factor is defined as a ratio of the expected units in the sample to the responding units. The household non-response was done for the LFS 2018 by getting the probability of selecting the households ( $p_2$ ) using the responding households. Therefore, in (3) was replaced by the number of responding households within each PSU and (3) becomes;

$$p_2^r = \frac{m_{hi}^r}{M_{hi}'}$$

where;

Number of responding households in the sample from PSU ( $i$ ) in stratum  $h$

Therefore, the design weights is given by (5) and (6) as;

$$ISR^{adj} = \frac{1}{p_1^{adj}} * \frac{1}{p_2^r} = \left[ \left( \frac{M_h}{M_{hi} * n_h} * \frac{T}{t} \right) * \frac{M_{hi}'}{m_{hi}^r} \right]$$

## 4.3. Calibration

The adjusted base weights were calibrated such that the aggregate totals matched with the independently derived (by the NSA Population and Housing Censuses and Demographic Surveys Division) population estimates for geographic area type, age and sex at national and regional levels. Calibration is generally applied as final step in the development of the survey weights at the person level. Calibration macro that was used is called ReGenesees and it is implemented in R Software. ReGenesees (R Evolved Generalized Software for Sampling Estimates and Errors in Surveys) is a full-fledged R software for design-based and model-assisted analysis of complex sample surveys.

### 4.3.1. Preparation of data file

Before the calibration procedure can be applied, the required datasets need to be provided and setup in the required format to be read into the calibration macro. In addition, the Population and Housing Censuses and Demographic Surveys Division provided a set of population projections at national and regional levels which were used to derive the control totals for calibration within required cells at national and regional levels.

There was a set of control totals that was prepared and used in the calibration of the design weights:

- National Urban/Rural and Regional levels: Totals are defined by the cross-classification of Urban/Rural, age and Sex. Urban/ rural is

defined into two group of Urban (1) and Rural (2); Regional level is defined into 14 regions (!Karas, Erongo, Hardap, Kavango East, Kavango West, Khomas, Kunene, Ohangwena, Omaheke, Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Otjozondjupa, Zambezi. Age is classified into the 14 five-year age groups of 0-4, 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, 18-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, and 65+. Sex is categorized into two groups of females (1) and males (2). The cross-classification resulted in 420 calibration cells at the national urban/rural and regional levels simultaneously.

### 4.4. Final weights

The final survey weights were constructed by calibrating the non-response-adjusted design weights to the known population estimates as control totals. The final weights for the person level ( ) is defined as the product of the design weight ( ) and the person level calibration factor (calib\_factor) calculated during the calibration process. A variable called Calib\_Weight is the final weights used for the LFS 2018 analysis of individual level data

$$W_p = ISR^{adj} * Calib\_factor$$

For the household and individual level data, the final weight is just the Calibrated weight,

$$W_h = ISR^{adj}$$

The LFS 2018 sample was calibrated using the population estimates of 2018. The final weights were benchmarked to the known population estimates of 5-year age groups by population group and by sex at national level,

<sup>2</sup>ReGenesees macro developed by the Italian National Institute of Statistics for the calibration process.



urban/rural and regional levels. The calibrated weights were constructed such that all persons in a household would have the same final weight.

## 5. Estimation

The final survey weights are used to obtain the estimates for various domains of interest, e.g. number of persons employed in Agriculture sector, youth unemployment, number of females employed in Manufacturing sector, employed persons by occupation etc. The most common measure of quality of the survey estimates that is reported from sample surveys is the level of precision of the estimates. The quality indicators are meant to ascertain the analysts about the level of precision of the estimates at different analysis of domains. The statistical precision of the survey estimates is expressed using different types of statistics such as Standard Errors (SE), the Coefficient of Variation (CV) and the Confidence Interval (CI). These are used to indicate the level of precision the survey estimates in estimating the population values. There are number of factors that can affect the precision of the survey estimates namely the size of the sample relative to the population size, the sample design and how the variability of the characteristics of interest in the population.

### 5.1. Data Quality Indicators

As mentioned earlier, the quality indicators are meant to ascertain the data users about the level of precision of the estimates at different analysis of domains. The following measures of precision was calculated for LFS 2018 key indicators.

(a) Coefficient of Variation (CV)

It is more useful in many situations to assess the size of the standard error relative to the magnitude of the characteristic being measured. The coefficient of variation provides such a measure and is defined as the ratio

of the standard error of the survey estimate to the magnitude of the estimate expressed as a percentage. The Coefficients of Variation of the sample statistic, is given by;

$$CV(b) = \frac{s\hat{e}(b)}{b}$$

The standard error is easier to interpret since it provides an indication of sampling error using the same scale as the estimate whereas the variance is based on squared differences. The standard error can be used to express the precision of an estimate by computing the coefficient of variance or the 95 percent confidence interval of the estimate.

c) Confidence Interval

The 95 percent confidence interval is the interval such that there is a 95 percent probability that the unknown

| CV level         | Interpretation                     |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| a. 0.0% - 1.0%   | Estimates are reliable             |
| b. 1.1% - 5.0%   |                                    |
| c. 5.1% - 15.0%  |                                    |
| d. 15.1% - 25.5% | Estimates can be used with Caution |
| e. 25.6% +       | Estimates are unreliable           |

Figure D.1: Level of the Coefficient of Variation for the survey estimates

b) Standard Error

The standard error of a survey estimate is defined as the square root of the variance of the estimate. The estimate of an arbitrary population parameter  $\theta$  have been denoted by  $\hat{\theta}$ , and the corresponding variance estimate by  $v(\hat{\theta})$ . The standard error of the estimate  $\hat{\theta}$  is then given by:

$$se(\hat{\theta}) = \sqrt{v(\hat{\theta})}.$$

population parameter  $\theta$  would be within the interval. The interval within which a population parameter is likely to be found, determined by sample data and a chosen level of significance ( $1-\alpha$  [ $\alpha$  refers to the level of significance]). Assuming a large sample size, the 95% Confidence Interval for the sample statistic is expressed as;

$$CI(b) = b \pm (1.96 \times s\hat{e}(b))$$

The confidence interval gives a range where the population parameter



lies. A wider confidence interval implies that there is too much variability in the statistic to estimate the population parameter while a narrower interval indicates less variability.

(d) P-value of an estimate of change

The p-value corresponding to an estimate of change is the probability of observing a value larger than the particular observed value under the hypothesis that there is no real change. If  $p\text{-value} < 0.01$ , the difference is highly significant; if p-value is between 0.01 and 0.05, the difference is significant; and if  $p\text{-value} > 0.05$ , the difference is not significant.

The following variables were looked at for the LFS 2018 with their measure of precision:

a) Unemployment rate

Table 3 below looks at the measures of precision achieved at national and regional levels for the unemployment rate. The estimates are well within the thresholds (less than 15% CV) defined in Figure 1 above and therefore the estimates are reliable at all domains of estimation

b) Unemployment rate by sex

Table 4 below shows the Unemployment rate by sex at national level. The estimates fall well within the Coefficient of Variation (CV) reliability thresholds.

c) Labour Force Participation rate

Table 5 below shows at the measures of precision achieved at national and regional levels for the labour force participation rate. The Coefficient of Variation for the estimates are well within the thresholds defined in Figure 1 above and therefore the estimates are reliable at all domains of estimation.

d) Absorption rate

Table 6 below looks at the measures of precision achieved at national and regional levels for the labour absorption rate. The estimates are well within the thresholds defined in Figure 1 above and therefore the estimates are reliable at most domains of estimation.

**Table D.3: Estimates of Unemployment rate by area with measures of precision**

| Area                | Estimates   | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |                        | Design Effect | Observation  |               | Coefficient of variation |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------------|
|                     |             |                | Lower confidence limit  | Upper Confidence Limit |               | Unweighted   | Weighted      |                          |
|                     | %           | %              | %                       | %                      |               |              |               | %                        |
| <b>Namibia</b>      | 33.4        | 0.7            | 32.1                    | 34.8                   | 3.7           | 17 310       | 1 090 153     | 2.1                      |
| Urban               | 33.4        | 0.9            | 31.6                    | 35.2                   | 3.6           | 8 276        | 623 831       | 2.7                      |
| Rural               | 33.5        | 1.1            | 31.4                    | 35.7                   | 3.9           | 9 034        | 466 322       | 3.3                      |
| !Karas              | 32.2        | 3.0            | 26.6                    | 38.4                   | 3.0           | 929          | 45 585        | 9.3                      |
| Erongo              | 29.7        | 2.1            | 25.8                    | 33.9                   | 3.6           | 1 235        | 112 800       | 6.9                      |
| Hardap              | 34.5        | 2.4            | 29.9                    | 39.4                   | 1.7           | 946          | 40 769        | 7.0                      |
| Kavango East        | 48.2        | 1.6            | 45.0                    | 51.4                   | 1.0           | 1 620        | 56 799        | 3.4                      |
| Kavango West        | 33.0        | 2.8            | 27.8                    | 38.7                   | 1.7           | 1 163        | 31 459        | 8.4                      |
| Khomas              | 31.5        | 1.7            | 28.2                    | 34.9                   | 5.2           | 2 004        | 241 321       | 5.4                      |
| Kunene              | 41.6        | 3.0            | 35.9                    | 47.5                   | 2.5           | 909          | 42 549        | 7.1                      |
| Ohangwena           | 33.3        | 2.1            | 29.3                    | 37.6                   | 3.0           | 1 401        | 91 955        | 6.4                      |
| Omaheke             | 38.7        | 4.1            | 31.0                    | 47.1                   | 3.8           | 919          | 33 571        | 10.7                     |
| Omusati             | 24.0        | 1.7            | 20.8                    | 27.5                   | 2.6           | 1 381        | 101 786       | 7.1                      |
| Oshana              | 32.5        | 2.2            | 28.4                    | 36.9                   | 3.1           | 1 366        | 90 757        | 6.7                      |
| Oshikoto            | 36.2        | 2.3            | 31.9                    | 40.7                   | 3.0           | 1,371        | 84 719        | 6.2                      |
| <b>Otjozondjupa</b> | <b>36.1</b> | <b>4.4</b>     | <b>27.9</b>             | <b>45.1</b>            | <b>10.0</b>   | <b>1 207</b> | <b>74 481</b> | <b>12.2</b>              |
| <b>Zambezi</b>      | <b>37.7</b> | <b>2.2</b>     | <b>33.4</b>             | <b>42.2</b>            | <b>1.4</b>    | <b>859</b>   | <b>41 600</b> | <b>5.9</b>               |

## e) Total Employed

Table 7 below looks at the measures of precision achieved at national and regional level for the total number of people

| Table D.4: Estimates of Unemployment rate by sex with the measures of precision |           |                |                         |                        |               |             |          |                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Area                                                                            | Estimates | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |                        | Design Effect | Observation |          | Coefficient of variation |
|                                                                                 |           |                | Lower confidence limit  | Upper Confidence Limit |               | Unweighted  | Weighted |                          |
|                                                                                 |           |                | %                       | %                      |               |             |          | %                        |
| Female                                                                          | 34.3      | 0.8            | 32.8                    | 36.0                   | 2.7           | 9 118       | 554 741  | 2.4                      |
| Male                                                                            | 32.5      | 0.9            | 30.7                    | 34.3                   | 3.2           | 8 192       | 535 412  | 2.9                      |

employed. The estimates are within the thresholds defined in Figure 1 above and therefore the estimates are reliable at all domains of estimation.

| Table D.5: Estimates of the labour Force participation rate by area with measures of precision |           |                |                         |                        |               |             |           |                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Area                                                                                           | Estimates | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |                        | Design Effect | Observation |           | Coefficient of variation |
|                                                                                                |           |                | Lower confidence limit  | Upper Confidence Limit |               | Unweighted  | Weighted  |                          |
|                                                                                                | %         | %              | %                       | %                      |               |             |           | %                        |
| Namibia                                                                                        | 71.2      | 0.6            | 70.0                    | 72.3                   | 4.30          | 24 753      | 1 531 967 | 0.84                     |
| Urban                                                                                          | 75.4      | 0.9            | 73.6                    | 77.0                   | 5.28          | 11 607      | 827 889   | 1.14                     |
| Rural                                                                                          | 66.2      | 0.8            | 64.7                    | 67.7                   | 3.08          | 13 146      | 704 078   | 1.17                     |
| !Karas                                                                                         | 74.0      | 2.6            | 68.6                    | 78.7                   | 3.44          | 1 296       | 61 636    | 3.49                     |
| Erongo                                                                                         | 80.9      | 2.0            | 76.6                    | 84.5                   | 5.80          | 1 576       | 139 472   | 2.47                     |
| Hardap                                                                                         | 67.4      | 2.4            | 62.5                    | 72.0                   | 2.62          | 1 396       | 60 451    | 3.60                     |
| Kavango East                                                                                   | 63.5      | 2.5            | 58.5                    | 68.3                   | 3.91          | 2 530       | 89 391    | 3.94                     |
| Kavango West                                                                                   | 65.3      | 1.7            | 61.8                    | 68.6                   | 1.03          | 1 716       | 48 187    | 2.66                     |
| Khomas                                                                                         | 76.8      | 1.5            | 73.6                    | 79.7                   | 6.83          | 2 739       | 314 224   | 2.02                     |
| Kunene                                                                                         | 71.5      | 2.1            | 67.3                    | 75.4                   | 2.03          | 1 305       | 59 474    | 2.90                     |
| Ohangwena                                                                                      | 62.2      | 1.5            | 59.2                    | 65.1                   | 2.27          | 2 168       | 147 906   | 2.40                     |
| Omaheke                                                                                        | 73.4      | 1.9            | 69.5                    | 76.9                   | 1.35          | 1 230       | 45 756    | 2.57                     |
| Omusati                                                                                        | 65.9      | 1.8            | 62.4                    | 69.3                   | 3.44          | 2 045       | 154 450   | 2.67                     |
| Oshana                                                                                         | 71.4      | 1.6            | 68.2                    | 74.4                   | 2.54          | 1 894       | 127 139   | 2.23                     |
| Oshikoto                                                                                       | 68.6      | 2.4            | 63.6                    | 73.1                   | 5.51          | 2 021       | 123 575   | 3.56                     |
| Otjozondjupa                                                                                   | 76.1      | 2.0            | 72.0                    | 79.8                   | 3.37          | 1 580       | 97 873    | 2.59                     |
| Zambezi                                                                                        | 66.6      | 2.9            | 60.7                    | 72.1                   | 3.84          | 1 257       | 62 433    | 4.37                     |

## f) Total Unemployed

The Table 8 below indicates the Coefficient of Variation for Total number of people unemployed. As it can be seen from the table, estimates for ! Karas (15.6) and Otjozondjupa (18.0) fall relatively on the use with caution thresholds for the Coefficient of Variation (as defined in Figure 1 above), while estimates for the rest of regions fall in the reliable thresholds.

## g) Total employed by occupation

Table 9 below looks at the measures of precision achieved at national and regional level for the total number of employed

| Table D.6: The Estimates of Absorption rate by area with the measures of precision |           |                |                         |                        |               |             |           |                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Area                                                                               | Estimates | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |                        | Design Effect | Observation |           | Coefficient of variation |
|                                                                                    |           |                | Lower confidence limit  | Upper Confidence Limit |               | Unweighted  | Weighted  |                          |
|                                                                                    | %         | %              | %                       | %                      |               |             |           |                          |
| Namibia                                                                            | 47.4      | 0.6            | 46.1                    | 48.6                   | 4.1           | 24 753      | 1 531 967 | 1.4                      |
| Urban                                                                              | 50.2      | 0.9            | 48.5                    | 51.9                   | 3.9           | 11 607      | 827 889   | 1.7                      |
| Rural                                                                              | 44.1      | 0.9            | 42.2                    | 45.9                   | 4.1           | 13 146      | 704 078   | 2.2                      |
| !Karas                                                                             | 50.1      | 2.9            | 44.4                    | 55.9                   | 3.4           | 1 296       | 61 636    | 5.8                      |
| Erongo                                                                             | 56.9      | 1.7            | 53.6                    | 60.1                   | 2.5           | 1 576       | 139 472   | 2.9                      |
| Hardap                                                                             | 44.2      | 2.2            | 39.9                    | 48.5                   | 1.9           | 1 396       | 60 451    | 5.0                      |
| Kavango East                                                                       | 32.9      | 1.4            | 30.3                    | 35.6                   | 1.2           | 2 530       | 89 391    | 4.1                      |
| Kavango West                                                                       | 43.7      | 2.4            | 39.1                    | 48.4                   | 1.8           | 1 716       | 48 187    | 5.4                      |
| Khomas                                                                             | 52.6      | 1.7            | 49.3                    | 56.0                   | 5.9           | 2 739       | 314 224   | 3.2                      |
| Kunene                                                                             | 41.8      | 2.5            | 37.0                    | 46.7                   | 2.4           | 1 305       | 59 474    | 5.9                      |
| Ohangwena                                                                          | 41.4      | 1.7            | 38.1                    | 44.9                   | 3.0           | 2 168       | 147 906   | 4.2                      |
| Omaheke                                                                            | 45.0      | 3.6            | 38.1                    | 52.0                   | 3.8           | 1 230       | 45 756    | 7.9                      |
| Omusati                                                                            | 50.1      | 2.0            | 46.2                    | 54.0                   | 3.9           | 2 045       | 154 450   | 3.9                      |
| Oshana                                                                             | 48.2      | 2.0            | 44.2                    | 52.2                   | 3.4           | 1 894       | 127 139   | 4.3                      |
| Oshikoto                                                                           | 43.8      | 2.5            | 38.9                    | 48.8                   | 5.1           | 2 021       | 123 575   | 5.8                      |
| Otjozondjupa                                                                       | 48.7      | 3.6            | 41.7                    | 55.6                   | 8.0           | 1 580       | 97 873    | 7.3                      |
| Zambezi                                                                            | 41.5      | 2.5            | 36.7                    | 46.5                   | 2.6           | 1 257       | 62 433    | 6.1                      |

persons by occupation. The estimates are within the thresholds defined in Figure 1 above and therefore the estimates are reliable at all domains of estimation.

## h) Total employed persons by industry

Table 10 below shows at the measures of precision achieved at national and regional levels for the estimated number of employed persons by industry. The Coefficient of Variation for the estimates for most industries are well within the

| Table D.7: The estimated total number of employed people by area with measure of precision |           |                |                         |                        |               |             |          |                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Area                                                                                       | Estimates | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |                        | Design Effect | Observation |          | Coefficient of variation |
|                                                                                            |           |                | Lower confidence limit  | Upper Confidence Limit |               | Unweighted  | Weighted |                          |
|                                                                                            | %         | %              | %                       | %                      |               |             |          | %                        |
| Namibia                                                                                    | 725742    | 14132          | 697983                  | 753501                 | 6.7           | 11455       | 725,742  | 1.9                      |
| Urban                                                                                      | 415588    | 11710          | 392587                  | 438590                 | 6.8           | 5329        | 415588   | 2.8                      |
| Rural                                                                                      | 310154    | 7951           | 294535                  | 325772                 | 4.0           | 6126        | 310154   | 2.6                      |
| !Karas                                                                                     | 30899     | 2777           | 25445                   | 36354                  | 4.3           | 628         | 30899    | 9.0                      |
| Erongo                                                                                     | 79326     | 4533           | 70422                   | 88229                  | 4.5           | 878         | 79326    | 5.7                      |
| Hardap                                                                                     | 26708     | 2331           | 22129                   | 31287                  | 3.5           | 623         | 26708    | 8.7                      |
| Kavango East                                                                               | 29418     | 2064           | 25363                   | 33472                  | 2.5           | 881         | 29418    | 7.0                      |
| Kavango West                                                                               | 21064     | 1464           | 18188                   | 23939                  | 1.7           | 798         | 21064    | 6.9                      |
| Khomas                                                                                     | 165385    | 8372           | 148939                  | 181830                 | 7.7           | 1379        | 165384   | 5.1                      |
| Kunene                                                                                     | 24846     | 2003           | 20911                   | 28782                  | 2.8           | 547         | 24846    | 8.1                      |
| Ohangwena                                                                                  | 61303     | 3345           | 54733                   | 67874                  | 3.2           | 967         | 61303    | 5.5                      |
| Omaheke                                                                                    | 20575     | 2258           | 16140                   | 25011                  | 4.2           | 560         | 20575    | 11.0                     |
| Omusati                                                                                    | 77375     | 4312           | 68904                   | 85846                  | 4.2           | 1050        | 77375    | 5.6                      |
| Oshana                                                                                     | 61223     | 3611           | 54130                   | 68315                  | 3.7           | 933         | 61223    | 5.9                      |
| Oshikoto                                                                                   | 54078     | 4445           | 45346                   | 62811                  | 6.3           | 879         | 54078    | 8.2                      |
| Otjozondjupa                                                                               | 47616     | 3833           | 40086                   | 55146                  | 5.3           | 790         | 47616    | 8.1                      |
| Zambezi                                                                                    | 25925     | 1769           | 22450                   | 29400                  | 2.1           | 542         | 25925    | 6.8                      |

thresholds defined in Figure 1 and therefore the estimates are reliable at all domains of estimation. The measures of precision for Electricity & related industries (19.4), Water supply & related industries (17.0), Information & communication (16.9) and Arts, entertainment & recreation (16.7) should be used with caution while the estimates for Real estate activities (30.2), Extraterritorial organization & bodies (35.0) and Not recorded (70.9) are not reliable at all.

| Table D.8: The estimated number of people unemployed by area with Measure of precision |           |                |                         |                        |               |             |          |                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Area                                                                                   | Estimates | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |                        | Design Effect | Observation |          | Coefficient of variation |
|                                                                                        |           |                | Lower confidence limit  | Upper Confidence Limit |               | Unweighted  | Weighted |                          |
|                                                                                        | %         | %              | %                       | %                      |               |             |          | %                        |
| Namibia                                                                                | 364411    | 11679          | 341469                  | 387354                 | 0.0           | 5855        | 364411   | 3.2                      |
| Urban                                                                                  | 208243    | 9161           | 190248                  | 226238                 | 15.1          | 2947        | 208243   | 4.4                      |
| Rural                                                                                  | 156168    | 7272           | 141882                  | 170454                 | 9.5           | 2908        | 156168   | 4.7                      |
| !Karas                                                                                 | 14685     | 2298           | 10172                   | 19199                  | 6.0           | 301         | 14685    | 15.6                     |
| Erongo                                                                                 | 33474     | 3527           | 26546                   | 40402                  | 6.6           | 357         | 33474    | 10.5                     |
| Hardap                                                                                 | 14060     | 1647           | 10825                   | 17296                  | 3.2           | 323         | 14060    | 11.7                     |
| Kavango East                                                                           | 27382     | 2451           | 22567                   | 32197                  | 3.8           | 739         | 27382    | 9.0                      |
| Kavango West                                                                           | 10396     | 1158           | 8120                    | 12671                  | 2.1           | 365         | 10396    | 11.1                     |
| Khomas                                                                                 | 75936     | 6695           | 62786                   | 89087                  | 12.0          | 625         | 75936    | 8.8                      |
| Kunene                                                                                 | 17703     | 2226           | 13330                   | 22076                  | 4.7           | 362         | 17703    | 12.6                     |
| Ohangwen                                                                               | 30652     | 3216           | 24334                   | 36969                  | 5.9           | 434         | 30652    | 10.5                     |
| Omaheke                                                                                | 12995     | 1864           | 9334                    | 16656                  | 4.5           | 359         | 12995    | 14.3                     |
| Omusati                                                                                | 24411     | 1988           | 20505                   | 28317                  | 2.8           | 331         | 24411    | 8.1                      |
| Oshana                                                                                 | 29535     | 2892           | 23853                   | 35217                  | 5.0           | 433         | 29535    | 9.8                      |
| Oshikoto                                                                               | 30641     | 2722           | 25294                   | 35988                  | 4.2           | 492         | 30641    | 8.9                      |
| Otjozondjupa                                                                           | 26865     | 4829           | 17380                   | 36351                  | 15.1          | 417         | 26865    | 18.0                     |
| Zambezi                                                                                | 15675     | 1411           | 12904                   | 18446                  | 2.1           | 317         | 15675    | 9.0                      |

i) P-value of an estimate of change

The difference in the population proportion for the unemployment rate between 2016 and 2018 including the p-value for the significance test has been calculated at a 5% level to determine the level of significance. The p-value for the difference between the two unemployment rates is 0.2187 which is higher than 0.05 and this indicates that the results

**Table D.9: The estimated total number of employed persons by occupation with measures of precision**

| Occupation<br>(ISCO-88)                                    | Estimates | Standard<br>error | 95% confidence interval      |                              | Design<br>Effect | Observation |          | Coefficient<br>of variation |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-------------|----------|-----------------------------|
|                                                            |           |                   | Lower<br>confidence<br>limit | Upper<br>Confidence<br>Limit |                  | Unweighted  | Weighted |                             |
|                                                            | %         | %                 | %                            | %                            |                  |             |          | %                           |
| Legislators,<br>senior officials<br>and managers           | 11825     | 1628              | 8627                         | 15023                        | 3.8              | 150         | 11825    | 13.8                        |
| Professionals                                              | 53032     | 3471              | 46213                        | 59851                        | 3.9              | 798         | 53032    | 6.5                         |
| Technicians<br>and associate<br>professionals              | 38002     | 2479              | 33132                        | 42873                        | 2.8              | 524         | 38002    | 6.5                         |
| Clerks                                                     | 39130     | 2545              | 34131                        | 44129                        | 2.9              | 523         | 39130    | 6.5                         |
| Service workers<br>and shop and<br>market sales<br>workers | 105774    | 4743              | 96456                        | 115091                       | 3.8              | 1,519       | 105774   | 4.5                         |
| Skilled<br>agricultural and<br>fishery workers             | 110664    | 4652              | 101526                       | 119802                       | 3.5              | 2,172       | 110664   | 4.2                         |
| Craft and related<br>trades workers                        | 90432     | 3899              | 82773                        | 98092                        | 3.0              | 1,295       | 90432    | 4.3                         |
| Plant and<br>machine<br>operators and<br>assemblers        | 33544     | 2558              | 28519                        | 38570                        | 3.4              | 432         | 33544    | 7.6                         |
| Elementary<br>occupations                                  | 211246    | 7787              | 195950                       | 226543                       | 5.3              | 3,614       | 211246   | 3.7                         |
| Armed forces                                               | 9475      | 1253              | 7015                         | 11936                        | 2.8              | 126         | 9475     | 13.2                        |
| Not elsewhere<br>classified                                | 22617     | 2053              | 18583                        | 26651                        | 3.2              | 302         | 22617    | 9.1                         |

are statistically not significant. Table 11 below indicates the p-value for the difference in the unemployment rate between 2018 and 2016.

It can be concluded that the percentage change increase between 2016 and 2018 on the unemployment rate is statistically not significant.

## 5.2. Cautionary note

The analysis given in this Section (5) shows that the survey estimates for the key indicators at national and urban/rural

**Table D.10: The estimated number of employed persons by industry with measures of precision**

| Area                                                       | Estimates | Standard error | 95% confidence interval |                        | Design Effect | Observation |          | Coefficient of variation |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|--------------------------|
|                                                            |           |                | Lower confidence limit  | Upper Confidence Limit |               | Unweighted  | Weighted |                          |
|                                                            | %         | %              | %                       | %                      |               |             |          | %                        |
| Agriculture forestry & fishing                             | 167242    | 6406           | 154659                  | 179826                 | 4.5           | 3426        | 167242   | 3.8                      |
| Mining and quarrying                                       | 12087     | 1805           | 8541                    | 15632                  | 4.6           | 161         | 12087    | 14.9                     |
| Manufacturing                                              | 45057     | 2886           | 39389                   | 50726                  | 3.2           | 566         | 45057    | 6.4                      |
| Electricity & related industries                           | 3278      | 635            | 2031                    | 4525                   | 2.1           | 42          | 3278     | 19.4                     |
| Water supply & related industries                          | 4095      | 698            | 2724                    | 5466                   | 2.0           | 63          | 4095     | 17.0                     |
| Construction                                               | 45057     | 2640           | 39871                   | 50243                  | 2.7           | 649         | 45057    | 5.9                      |
| Wholesale and retail trade                                 | 80852     | 4423           | 72164                   | 89540                  | 4.3           | 1143        | 80852    | 5.5                      |
| Transport and storage                                      | 24710     | 1916           | 20946                   | 28474                  | 2.5           | 301         | 24710    | 7.8                      |
| Accommodation & food service activities                    | 83056     | 4893           | 73445                   | 92668                  | 5.1           | 1176        | 83056    | 5.9                      |
| Information & communication                                | 7141      | 1206           | 4771                    | 9511                   | 3.5           | 125         | 7141     | 16.9                     |
| Financial and insurance activities                         | 13861     | 1886           | 10156                   | 17566                  | 4.4           | 155         | 13861    | 13.6                     |
| Real estate activities                                     | 1050      | 317            | 428                     | 1673                   | 1.6           | 14          | 1050     | 30.2                     |
| Professional, scientific and technical activities          | 8648      | 1166           | 6358                    | 10939                  | 2.7           | 108         | 8648     | 13.5                     |
| Administrative & support service activities                | 29951     | 2078           | 25870                   | 34032                  | 2.5           | 399         | 29951    | 6.9                      |
| Public administration, defense, compulsory social security | 34174     | 2892           | 28492                   | 39855                  | 4.2           | 505         | 34174    | 8.5                      |
| Education                                                  | 46923     | 2876           | 41273                   | 52573                  | 3.1           | 762         | 46923    | 6.1                      |
| Human health & social work activities                      | 19527     | 1557           | 16469                   | 22585                  | 2.1           | 296         | 19527    | 8.0                      |
| Arts, entertainment & recreation                           | 4910      | 819            | 3302                    | 6519                   | 2.3           | 59          | 4910     | 16.7                     |



|                                        |       |      |       |       |     |      |       |      |
|----------------------------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-----|------|-------|------|
| Other services activities              | 20865 | 1684 | 17557 | 24173 | 2.3 | 319  | 20865 | 8.1  |
| Private households                     | 72185 | 4014 | 64300 | 80070 | 3.9 | 1166 | 72185 | 5.6  |
| Extraterritorial organization & bodies | 1035  | 362  | 325   | 1746  | 2.1 | 18   | 1035  | 35.0 |
| Not recorded                           | 37    | 26   | -14   | 88    | 0.3 | 2    | 37    | 70.9 |

levels are very much reliable. At regional level however, there are some variables where caution needs to be exercised when interpreting the survey estimates, due to the relatively higher Coefficient of Variation (see Table 8 and Table 10 above). In addition, when cross tabulating these variable (especially the total unemployed, number of employed persons by industry) with other analysis variables the cell sizes could become relatively smaller and the estimates might not be reliable to be used.

**Table D.11: The difference in the population proportion for the unemployment rate including the p-value for the significance test**

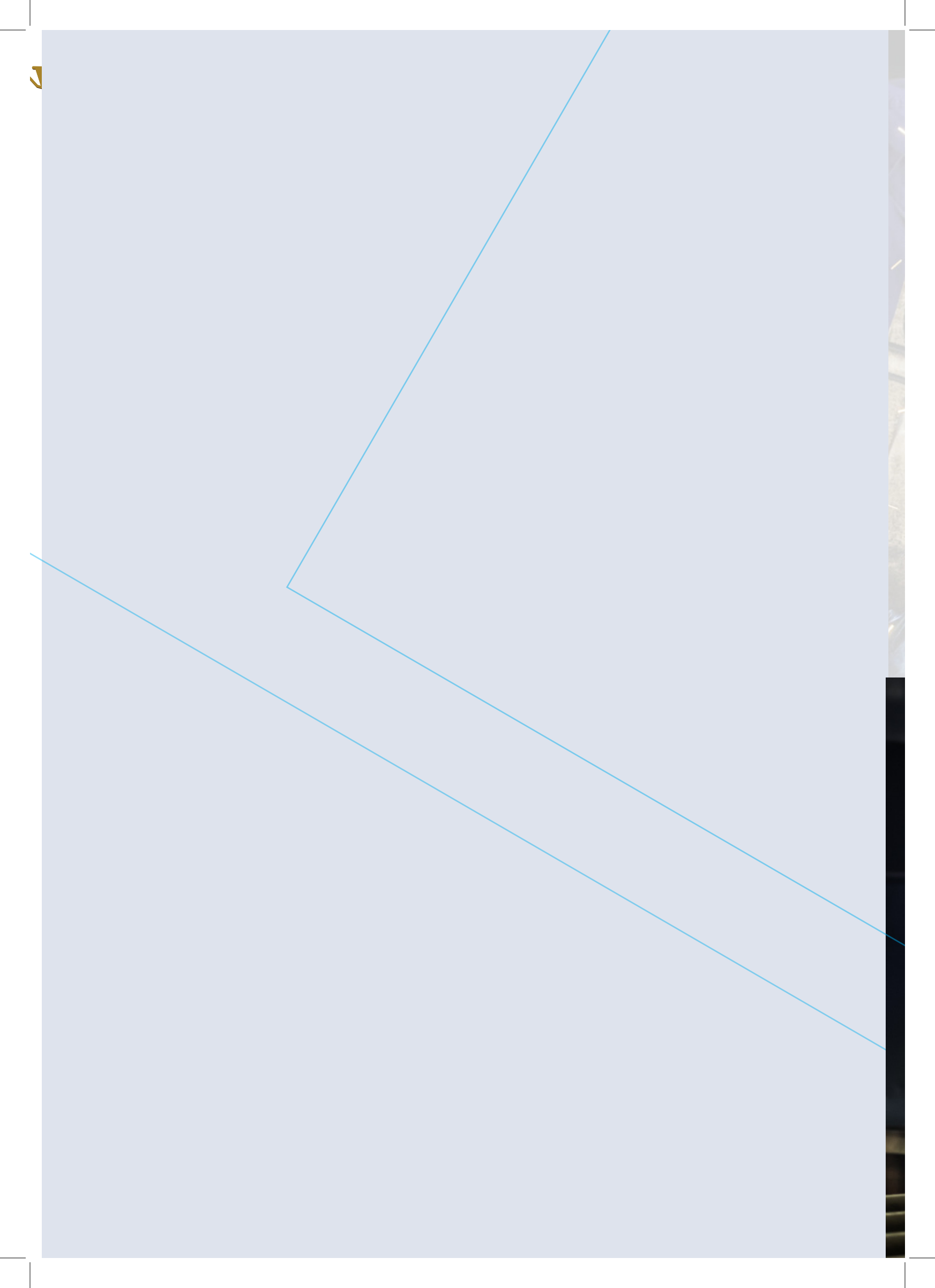
|           | % Change | 95% CI of the Difference | Z-Score | P-value | Comment                       |
|-----------|----------|--------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|
| 2016-2018 | -0.6     | (-0.016 ; 0.004)         | -1.2308 | P>0.05  | Not statistically significant |







[illegible]





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